



Local Law Declared Pest Plant for the Fraser Island

Easter cassia

(Senna pendula var. glabrata)



ORIGIN: South America.

DESCRIPTION: A shrub that grows to about 5m tall. The stems often grow in a zigzag pattern and may be sparsely hairy. The leaves grow in alternate formation, are pinnate with 3-6 pairs of leaflets. The topside of the leaf stalk has a gland between the lowermost leaflets. Flowers are bright yellow approximately 30mm across. They are borne in leafy clusters at the tips of the branches. The fruit occurs after flowering with hundreds of green, slender seed pods up to 12cm long (maturing to brown). Seeds are black, irregular, and around 5-40 seeds per pod.

SPREAD: Occasional and widespread.

AREAS FOUND: Fraser Island and mainly east of the ranges.

CONTROL METHODS: Hand-pull small individual plants, particularly in moist soil. Take care to remove the roots and consider applying mulch to discourage regrowth.

Larger individuals may be dug out with a mattock or similar garden tool. The whole crown must be removed for the achievement of long-term control. This approach may be deemed too labour intensive for more established individual plants or for larger infestations.

HERBICIDE CONTROL: Before using any herbicide always read the label carefully and apply strictly in accordance with directions on the label.

OBLIGATION OF LANDOWNERS: A local law declared pest plant is one that has been targeted for control under Local Government legislation.

This provides for the protection of the environment, public health, safety, and amenity within the local government's area.

Declaration under the Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environment Management) 2011, and Subordinate Local Law No. 3 (Community and Environment Management) 2011 imposes a legal responsibility for control by all landowners on Fraser Island.

All landowners on Fraser Island have an obligation to:

- Eradicate where possible.
- Prevent the spread; and
- Reduce the existing size of infestations, particularly where they have or could have significant economic, environmental, or social impact. This declaration also prohibits the sale, introduction, or propagation of Easter cassia on Fraser Island.

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