



## Local Law Declared Pest Plant for the Fraser Island

### Ochna

(*Ochna serrulata*)



**ORIGIN:** Africa.

**DESCRIPTION:** This is an erect, woody shrub growing to about 1.5m tall. Leaves are narrow, and glossy with serrated margins. Flowers are bright yellow and fruits, whilst initially green, turn glossy black in summer, and flowers mainly in Spring and Summer.

**SPREAD:** Mainly by bird-dispersed seeds but can also spread in dumped garden waste.

**AREAS FOUND:** The plant prefers subtropical areas, and is found along roadsides and in rainforests, riparian areas and disturbed areas.

**CONTROL METHODS:** Physical control including hand-pulling which can be most effective for young seedlings. Take care not to break the tap root. Larger plants may need to be grubbed out with a mattock.

Herbicides are also effective.

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 Ochna on Fraser Island.

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