



# Local Law Declared Pest Plant for the Fraser Coast Region

## Bathurst burr

(*Xanthium spinosum*)



**ORIGIN:** South America.

**DESCRIPTION:** This is a small shrub with yellow-spined burrs. It is an annual herb growing into erect, multi-branched plants up to 1m tall. The leaves are dark green on the upper surface and paler green underneath. Flowers are creamy green, small, developing into straw coloured burrs. Burrs are 1-1.5cm long with numerous, yellow-hooked spines, and the plant germinates late spring to early summer and produces burrs in February which die in early winter.

**SPREAD:** The burrs attach to animals, clothing, shoes etc, and are spread in this manner, with easily dispersing seed. Burrs also float and can spread along water courses.

**AREAS FOUND:** Along roadsides, old cultivation paddocks and irrigated pastures or water courses.

**CONTROL METHODS:** Physical control via cultivation is effective in seedling stage. Alternatively, spraying with herbicides is effective, especially on young plants before burrs form.

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 in the Fraser Coast region.

All landowners 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 Bathurst burr.

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Telephone us  
1300 79 49 29



Email us  
[enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au)

March 2021 #4255361v1