

ATTEMPTED ERADICATION OF EXOTIC WEED SPECIES
IN SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND

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Exotic species have been introduced at various times into Queensland from overseas and southern States. They presently occur in confined areas, but because of their reputation as weeds in other situations they have been subjected to a constant control programme. So far eradication has proved to be impossible but the weed populations have been reduced to and maintained at very low levels. Provided control measures are continued these plants no longer pose any threat to the environments in which they occur.

The plant species currently being treated together with their status in Queensland in 1981 are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Weed species being treated and their status in 1981.

Common name (Botanical name)	District where plant occurs	Date first reported	Date control commenced	Notes
Badhara Bush (<i>Gmelina asiatica</i>)	Rockhampton	May 1972	March 1973	Top growth easily killed with basal bark sprays but suckers vigorously from roots; needs yearly attention but is under control.
Lacy Ragweed (<i>Ambrosia tenuifolia</i>)	Cloyna Drillham Windera	July 1950 Jan. 1951 Feb. 1958	March 1951 April 1951 Feb. 1958	Infestations reduced to scattered patches; all areas well under control.
Sneezeweed (<i>Helenium amarum</i>)	Mt. Tarampa	Feb. 1953	March 1953	Infestations reduced to scattered plants; under control but needs constant attention during the growing season.
Cottontails (<i>Froelichia floridana</i>)	Yalleroi Roma Mitchell Chinchilla	March 1959 Feb. 1977 1975	Dec. 1978 Dec. 1978 1977	Not found in Yalleroi district for many years. Infestations at Mitchell and Roma under control. Chinchilla infestation confined to one farm.
Perennial Ragweed (<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i>)	Blackbutt Hawwood	Jan. 1957 Nov. 1956	Feb. 1958 Feb. 1959	The infestations in these districts have been reduced to isolated clumps; well under control.
Seroty Weed (<i>Eupatorium serotinum</i>)	Nerang	April 1962	May 1963	Very few scattered plants; close to successful eradication.
St John's Wort (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> var. <i>angustifolium</i>)	Pechey Highfields	Nov. 1958 Dec. 1969	Jan. 1959 Dec. 1969	No plants found at Pechey for a number of years. A few areas found and treated along roadsides in the Highfields district; well under control.

Table 1 (con't.)

Common name (Botanical name)	District where plant occurs	Date first reported	Date control commenced	Notes
Stinkwort (<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>)	Near Wallangarra Wyberba	March 1957 1969	1957 1969	Wallangarra infestation apparently eradicated. Scattered plants still being found and treated along roadsides near Wyberba.
Water hyacinth (<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>)	Goondiwindi Yelarbon Drillham	April 1960 Dec. 1972 Dec. 1972	May 1973 May 1973 Jan. 1973	Small numbers of seedlings and scattered plants are still found in these districts but the infestations are well under control. No plants have been found in the Drillham weir for a number of years. Very close to successful eradication. The plant is widespread along the coast.