

Mysore Thorn is a weed with which we have had to contend in our garden. It is aggressive with vicious thorns. I thought that we had eradicated it but no, thanks to an abandoned house and property across the road it is back in our garden especially in our more forested areas.



Botanical name: *Caesalpinia decapetala*

Common name: Mysore Thorn

Family: Fabaceae (Leguminosae): sub-family Caesalpinioideae

Origin: Japan, China, India and Malaysia. Invasive weed in New Zealand, Dominican Republic, Sth Africa and Hawaii.

Habit: Evergreen shrub

Height: 2-4m x 20m when climbing over supporting vegetation.

Flowers: Racemes up to 35cm long of distinctive pale yellow flowers with 5 petals, 10-15mm long and 8-15mm wide that protrude up to 50cm above the main plant and have prickles at the base. Flowers during winter and spring.

Fruit: Seeds can remain viable for 10 years and are spread by water and rodents

Stems: Branches are covered in fine golden hairs with hooked thorns up to 5mm long along the length. The bark is rough at the base, the smoother and cream-green above.

Leaves: Bipinnate leaves consisting of main stalk up to 30 cm long with 3-15 opposite pairs of pinnae. Each pinna has 3-12 pairs of oblong leaflets (10-22mm long and 4-11 mm wide). Leaves are dark green above and paler underneath.

Reproduction: Oblong pods that are flat and hairy, 6-10cm long and 2-3cm wide with a

Habitat: Prefers coastal humid conditions in sub-tropical to tropical climates. Grows in a variety of soils and tolerates high rainfall. It will grow in disturbed areas, roadsides, pastures, creek banks, native grasslands and along the edges of bushlands and forests

Toxicity.

Control Methods: Non-chemical control:

Physical removal of small seedling plants

Chemical control: Vigilant II[®] (active ingredients: Picloram 44.7 g/kg + Aminopyralid 4.47 g/L) Undiluted. Cut stump application. Apply a 3-5mm layer of gel for stems less than 20mm. Apply 5mm layer on stems above 20mm. No withholding period. Brush-off[®] (active ingredient: Metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg) 10g per 100L of water. Spray to thoroughly wet all foliage, but not to cause run-off. Apply to actively growing plants before flowering. Add wetting agent. No withholding period.

NOTE:

General Biosecurity Duty: All plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the

“beak” at one end, containing 4-9 seeds. Seeds are black and brown in colour 6-10mm wide produced from August through to December.

risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

North Coast Regional Recommended

Measure*Whole region: The plant or parts of the plant should not be traded, carried, grown or released into the environment. Exclusion zone: The plant should be eradicated from the land and the land kept free of the plant. Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land. Core infestation area: Land managers should reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.