



# North West Weeds

**NOXIOUS WEED CONTROL UNIT FOR GWYDIR AND INVERELL SHIRES**

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## Sweet Briar

Sweet briar (*Rosa rubiginosa*) is a native of Europe. A member of the rose family, it was introduced into Australia by early white settlers because of its attractive flowers. Widely planted, it soon became well established particularly in the cooler, high rainfall areas of New South Wales.



*Sweet briar is spread by fruit-eating animals and birds. Seed material is also spread by floodwaters. Sweet briar is very invasive - the thorny plants can severely reduce a property's stock-carrying capacity.*

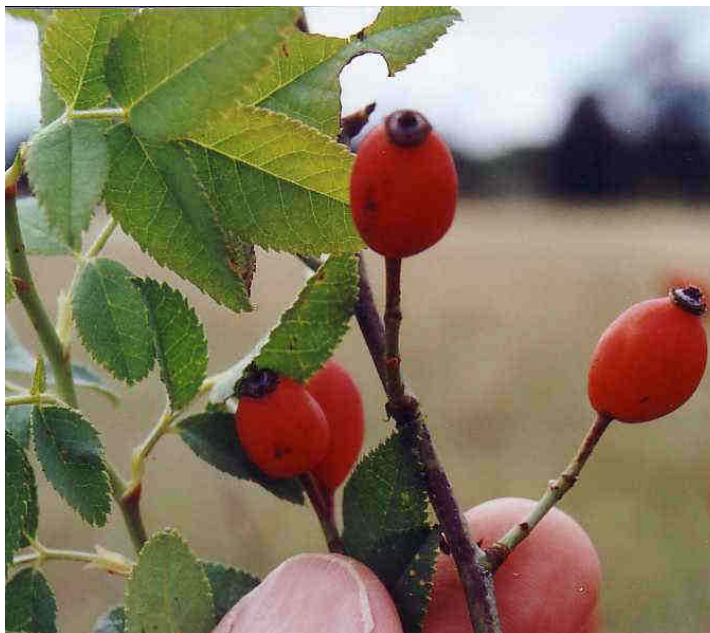
### EFFECT ON ANIMALS

The main problem with sweet briar is its invasiveness. It takes over shaded areas first and keeps spreading until it reduces a property's stock-carrying capacity.

### IDENTIFICATION

Sweet briar belongs to the rose family of plants. It is thorny, and has very attractive white flowers during the late spring. The fruit, shown in the photograph below, matures in late summer and is shed in autumn.

Each fruit contains a large number of seeds - the seeds remain viable in the ground for up to four years.



### CC4(A) MANAGEMENT PLAN - Legal requirements within the Shires of Gwydir and Inverell:

Must be prevented from spreading and its numbers and distribution reduced. Areas within 50 metres of property boundaries to be maintained free of plants. Control options include manual removal and/or treatment with herbicides registered for the purpose. Regular, follow-up treatment essential.

### MORE INFORMATION? PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL WEEDS OFFICER:

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OR check out our website on [www.northwestweeds.nsw.gov.au](http://www.northwestweeds.nsw.gov.au)

## SWEET BRIAR (CONT)

### MORE INFORMATION:

Includes *Noxious Plants of Australia*, by Parsons and Cuthbertson (Inkata Press).

### CONTROL METHODS

**Non-Chemical Options:** Plants can be removed by hand grubbing or removal with a tractor and chain if ground wet.

Repeated cultivation is effective because ploughing eventually takes care of most of the root system.

Grazing management using sheep or particularly goats can be an effective means of controlling sweet briar.

**Chemical Options:** October - November are usually the best months for treatment of sweet briar in north west New South Wales - as long as the plants are not moisture-stressed. Plants need to be actively growing.

According to NSW Dept of Primary Industries' excellent booklet "*Noxious and Environmental Weed Control Handbook 2004/2005*", treatments for sweet briar include:

Chemical options	Rate: Spot/Boom	Comments
<b>Triclopyr +Picloram</b> Various trade names eg Grazon DS®	350 or 500 ml in 100 L of water	Full leaf to ripe fruit prior to leaf fall. Use higher rate on bushes over 1.5 metres high.
<b>Triclopyr +Picloram</b> Various trade names eg Access®	1 L in 60 L diesel	Basal bark / cut stump treatment.
<b>Triclopyr</b> Various trade names eg Garlon®	1.0 L in 30 L of diesel	Apply as basal bark/cut stump application
<b>Picloram + 2,4-D</b> Tordon 75 D®	650 ml in 100 L of water	Full leaf as an overall spray
<b>Glyphosate 360 g/L</b> Various trade names	1.5 to 2.0 L in 100 L of water	Spray to wet all foliage, from late flowering to leaf fall. Use higher rate on bushes over 1.5 metres high.
<b>Metsulfuron methyl</b> Various trade names	10 g in 100 L of water	Apply to actively growing bushes to point of run off. <b>Do not apply after end of February</b>
<b>Glyphosate + metsulfuron</b> Trounce® Cut-out®	1 measured pack in 100 L of water	Apply as close to the flowering period as possible
<b>Hexazinone</b> Velpar L®	4 ml per spot	One spot per metre of height. <b>Do not apply near desirable trees.</b>

### IMPORTANT: USE OF PESTICIDES - ALWAYS READ THE LABEL

Pesticides must only be used for the purpose for which they are registered and must not be used in any other situation or in any manner contrary to the directions on the label. Never use a herbicide in any way contrary to the label recommendations.

**DISCLAIMER:** The information contained herein is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of North West Weeds or the user's independent adviser. (LRT 28/06/06)