

**North West Regional Best Practice Guide for:** **Scotch Broom**

**Botanical Name:** *Cytisus scoparius*

**Common Name:** Broom, English Broom

**Priority Weeds Objective** – Containment

These weeds are widely distributed in the region. While broad scale elimination is not practicable, minimisation of the biosecurity risk posed by this weed is reasonably practicable.



Photo: NSW DPI

**Scotch Broom: Forms dense impenetrable thickets which displaces native vegetation and are an ideal harbour for feral animals such as pigs, rabbits and foxes. Broom is a prolific producer of seeds up to 20,000 seeds per square metre . Scotch broom is also hard-seeded with only some seeds germinating at one time. This makes established infestations difficult to control as treated sites are readily re-infested.**

**General Biosecurity Duty – *Biosecurity Act 2015***
*A* ***general biosecurity duty*** *applies to all dealings (as defined) with this species. Any person who deals with this species who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk posed by the plant, a carrier or a dealing , has a duty to ensure the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.*

**Tamworth Regional Council Control Requirements**

1. Reduce the size and density of infested area by physical, mechanical and or chemical control methods, and
2. Eliminate or minimise the risk of spread onto neighbouring lands.

**Regional Recommended Measure**: An **exclusion zone** is established for all lands in the region, except the core infestation area comprising all Local Government areas land East of the Newell Highway.

**Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with GBD**

**Whole Of region**: the plant or parts of the plant are not traded, carried, grown or released into the environment

**Within Exclusion Zone:** The plant is eradicated from the land and the land is kept free of the plant. Land Managers should prevent spread from their land. Land Managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land

**Within Core Infestation:** Land managers should reduce impacts from the plant on priority assets.

**Mandatory Measure** - A person must not import into the State or sell.

##### Penalty for not complying with the general biosecurity duty or a direction issued under the *Biosecurity Act 2015*

The maximum penalty is:

* in the case of an individual—$220,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $55,000 for each day the offence continues, or
* in the case of a corporation—$440,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $110,000 for each day the offence continues.

The maximum penalty for an offence that is committed negligently is:

* in the case of an individual—$1,100,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $137,500 for each day the offence continues, or
* in the case of a corporation—$2,200,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of $275,000 for each day the offence continues.

**Scotch Broom Control Calendar**

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| **JAN** | **FEB** | **MARCH** | **APRIL** | **MAY** | **JUNE** | **JULY** | **AUG** | **SEPT** | **OCT** | **NOV** | **DEC** |

**GROWTH CYCLES**

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| **GERMINATION** |
| **FLOWERING** |
| **ACTIVE GROWTH** |  |

**INTERGRATED CONTROL TECHNIQUES AND ALTERNATIVES**

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| **PHYSICALALLY REMOVE PLANTS AND DESTROY BY BURNING ON SITE ANYTIME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR** |
|  | **OPTIMUM HERBICIDE USE** |
| **FOLLOW UP ANY REGROWTH AS IT APPEARS AND DESTROY BY PHYSICAL REMOVAL OR SPRAY WITH HERBICIDES** |

**Registered Herbicide Application Rates:**

Please refer to theNSW DPI Website NSW WeedWise.<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au> for current up to date permits and Registered Chemicals.

Or to NSW Weed Control Handbook 2018 7th Edition for Chemical Options.

**Critical Comments:**

* Apply when plants are actively growing.
* Consult your LCA Biosecurity Officer- Weeds for application tips
* Always read and follow the Label instructions and SDS of respective herbicides.

**NOTE:**

1. All Control Techniques involving herbicide use, must comply with the directions on the herbicide label or the conditions set out in a current permit to use a nominated herbicide.
2. All chemical control programs must be carried out in accordance with the *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017.
3. All Chemical application programs used must be undertaken by or be designed and supervised by an appropriately Certified and Accredited Chemical user.
4. Growth patterns and the changes to optimum treatment times will vary with seasonal conditions due to air temperature changes that may coincide with soil and moisture availability.

**Disclaimer:**

This document has been prepared by the North West Regional Weed Committee and Local Government Control Authorities in good faith and on the basis of best available information. Users of this document must obtain their own advice and conduct their own investigations and assessments of their individual circumstances.

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| **Linkage to Plans/Strategies*** North West Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022
* NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021
* NSW Biosecurity Act 2015
* NSW Invasive Species Plan 2018- 2021
* *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017

**References***NSW DPI Website /WeedWise/ NSW Weed Control Handbook 2018 7th Edition.*  | **For Further Information contact:**Tamworth Regional Council’sAuthorised Officers –Weeds.437 Peel StreetRay Walsh HouseTamworth NSW 2340PH: (02)67675499 |

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