

Bamboo

Phyllostachys spp. and *Bambusa* spp.



Native to tropical and sub-tropical Asia, bamboos were introduced as an ornamental, and are often used as shelter belts or for erosion control. Dense stands of bamboo grow to the total exclusion of other vegetation in many different environments.

Declaration details

Bamboo is a not declared plant under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*; however, plants that are not declared under state legislation may have control requirements imposed by local governments.

Description and general information

Bamboos are perennial, tall, woody grasses of varying heights (2–15 m). They have hollow canes with nodes at intervals and alternate thick, grass-like leaves.

Shoots from buds of underground stems (rhizomes) spread and produce new canes either slowly (clumping bamboos) or rapidly (running bamboos). The former (e.g. *Bambusa* spp.) are less invasive of native vegetation and gardens than the latter (e.g. *Phyllostachys* spp.) in which rhizomes may grow as far as 1 m from the parent plant in the first year, the rate of growth increasing each year afterwards. Each rhizome is capable of producing many new shoots along its length.

Flowers are usually insignificant and held on slender arching panicles.



Queensland Government

Control

Manual control

Digging plants out can be a very difficult job and may require heavy equipment. Continuing removal of tops will usually be necessary due to the plant's resprouting; however, ongoing regular cutting or mowing will eventually kill most plants by exhausting their food reserves.

Herbicide control

Various formulations containing glyphosate as their only active ingredient are registered for the control of bamboo in Queensland.

See Table 1 for treatment options allowed by the permit.

Prior to using the chemicals listed under PER11463 you must read or have read to you and understand the conditions of the permit. To obtain a copy of this permit contact your local council weed inspector or visit www.apvma.gov.au

It is a requirement of the permit that all persons using products covered by this off-label permit comply with the details and conditions listed in the permit. Permit number PER11463 expires on 30 June 2014. While the permit may be extended beyond this date, there is no guarantee that it will, so contact your local council weed inspector for the latest information after the expiry date.

Follow up

Monitor treated areas regularly for any new seedlings or regrowth.

Further information

Further information is available from your local government office, or by contacting Biosecurity Queensland (call 13 25 23 or visit our website at www.deedi.qld.gov.au).

Table 1. Herbicides registered for the control of bamboo

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration status	Comments
Spot spray (remove tops of bamboo shoots and spot spray actively growing foliage and/or regrowth 1–2 m tall)	Glyphosate (360 g/L)	1 L per 100 L water (handgun application) 150 ml per 15 L water (knapsack sprays)	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014	Read permit carefully prior to use
Cut stump (cut stems back to 20 cm high and immediately pour herbicide down the hollow stem and wet the cut)	Glyphosate (360 g/L)	1 L per 6 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014	Read permit carefully prior to use

Read the herbicide label carefully before use. Always use the herbicide in strict accordance with label directions.

Source: PER11463

Fact sheets are available from Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) service centres and our Business Information Centre (telephone 13 25 23). Check our website at www.deedi.qld.gov.au to ensure you have the latest version of this fact sheet. The control methods referred to in this fact sheet should be used in accordance with the restrictions (federal and state legislation, and local government laws) directly or indirectly related to each control method. These restrictions may prevent the use of one or more of the methods referred to, depending on individual circumstances. While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this information, DEEDI does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.