

Centro

Centrosema pubescens



Photo courtesy of the Bureau of Sugar Experimental Stations

Native to South America, centro is now an established pasture plant and a widespread weed of cane fields, roadside banks and other disturbed areas.

Declaration details

Centro 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

A vigorous twining perennial herb, centro forms a tangled mat about 50 cm deep or grows up shrubs to 3 m or more.

Dark green leaves are trifoliate with leaflets about 2 cm long and 1–1.5 cm wide and covered with fine, downy hairs.

Large mauve pea flowers grow in groups of one to several at the end of slender stalks from the leaf axils. Pods are long, 7.5–15 cm, flat and brown when ripe, holding up to 20 brownish-red seeds with black streaks.

Control

Manual control

Hand pull isolated plants and small infestations, making sure that all roots and stem fragments are removed. Plant pieces should either be bagged and taken to the dump or hung up off the ground to prevent reshooting.



Herbicide control

There is only one chemical (glufosinate-ammonium) registered for use on centro in non-agricultural situations in Queensland.

Off-label use permit (Permit No. PER11463) allows the use of various herbicides for the control of environmental weeds in non-agricultural areas, bushland, forests, wetlands, and coastal and adjacent areas.

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 centro

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration status	Comments
Spot spray (when plants are actively growing)	Glufosinate-ammonium (200 g/L)	500 ml per 100 L clean water	Registered for use	Use herbicide in accordance with label directions
Foliar spray	Dicamba (200 g/L)	500 ml (on mature) to 1 L (on regrowth) per 100 L water plus wetting agent	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014	Read permit carefully prior to use
Foliar spray	Dicamba (500 g/L)	200 ml (on mature) to 1 L (on regrowth) per 100 L water	APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014	Read permit carefully prior to use

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

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.