

Invasive plants and animals

## Chinese celtis

*Celtis sinensis*



**DECLARED CLASS 3**



### The problem

Chinese celtis is an Asian tree that is naturalised throughout most of south-east Queensland. This fast growing species forms dense infestations along creek banks and prevents regeneration of native riparian vegetation. It also sucks up water and has the potential to affect populations of native animals through habitat destruction. Celtis is very common in and around Brisbane, due to its cultivation as a shade tree and garden plant. Celtis seeds are spread by birds, flying foxes and water.

This deciduous tree grows up to about 12 m tall and flowers in spring. Leaves are quite glossy, with a paler underside and pronounced veins. Thousands of small, orange berries are produced and are dispersed when eaten by birds. Celtis often grows in clay soils associated with alluvial creek flats and gullies. It is an invader of riparian habitats and seems particularly successful in areas where the original vegetation has been disturbed or fenced off from grazing stock.

### Description

## Management strategies

Prevention is the key and celtis should be removed before it has the chance to grow into a problem. Small seedlings can be hand pulled or dug out. Pre-plan your revegetation so other weeds do not invade the disturbed area. Dozing and burning dense infestations with controlled grazing gives best control. Herbicides may be necessary for killing larger specimens.

## Declaration details

Chinese celtis is a declared Class 3 plant under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*. The Act prohibits the supply or sale of Class 3 plants and may require their removal from environmentally significant areas.

## Further information

Further information is available from the vegetation management/weed control/environmental staff at your local government.

**TABLE 1 – HERBICIDES REGISTERED FOR THE CONTROL OF CHINESE CELTIS**

| Method         | Herbicide                                 | Rate                                      | Registration status | Comments  |
|----------------|---|---|---------------------|---|
| Basal bark     | fluroxypyr (200 g/L)                      | 35 mL per 1 L diesel or kerosene          | Registered          | Young plants up to 2 m high and 20 cm basal diameter                                      |
| Stem injection | picoloram (100 g/L) + triclopyr (200 g/L) | 1 L per 4 L water                         | PERMIT 7485         |   |
| Cut stump      | picoloram (100 g/L) + triclopyr (200 g/L) | 50 mL per 1 L water                       | PERMIT 7485         | Cut stumps to less than 10 cm above the ground and immediately paint stump after cutting. |
| Stem injection | glyphosate (360 g/L)                      | Undiluted at 1 mL per 2 cm of hole or cut | PERMIT 7485         | Plants up to 30 cm basal diameter.  |
| Cut stump      | glyphosate (360 g/L)                      | 1 L to 12 L water                         | PERMIT 7485         |   |
| Spot spray     | fluroxypyr (200 g/L)                      | 500 mL per 100 L water                    | PERMIT 7485         | Overall spray on young plants less than 2 m high.   |
| Foliar spray   | 2,4-D acid (300 g/L)                      | 1 L per 100 L water                       | Registered          | Overall spray on young seedlings.   |

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

It is a requirement of a permit that all persons using the products covered by this off-label permit comply with the details and conditions listed in the permit. In addition, read the herbicide label carefully before use and always use the herbicide in accordance with label directions. The above permit can be used by pest control operations, members of environmental groups such as Bushcare, Catchment Care, Coast Care and people employed as or working under supervision of local and state government officers.

Fact sheets are available from DPI&F service centres and the DPI&F Information Centre phone (13 25 23). Check our web site <[www.dpi.qld.gov.au](http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au)> to ensure you have the latest version of this fact sheet. The control methods referred to in this Pest Fact 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 utilisation 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, the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries does not invite reliance upon it, nor accept responsibility for any loss or damage caused by actions based on it.

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