

# Clitoria

*Clitoria laurifolia*



Clitoria is native to tropical America. In North Queensland, it has aggressively invaded paperbark swampland, displacing the natural ground cover. Hard seeds could remain viable in the soil for around 10 years, germinating after fire.

## Declaration details

Clitoria 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

Perennial forb/climber with slender twining stems to 2 m long with a thick woody rootstock. Young growth has silky hairs.

Dark green trifoliate leaves with oval, blunt leaflets (8 cm × 4 cm), very fine hairs on underside of leaflets.

Purple to nearly white pea-shaped flowers, 3–3.5 cm long, in clusters in the leaf axil with only a couple open at any one time.

Fruit is a slender pod and contains hard seeds.

## 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

Larger infestations should be treated with herbicide.

There is no herbicide currently registered for control of clitoria in Queensland; however, there is an off-label use permit (Permit No. PER11463) that allows the use of various herbicides for the control of environmental weeds in non-agricultural areas, bushland, forests, wetlands, and coastal and adjacent areas.



Queensland Government

See Table 1 for treatment options allowed by the permit.

It is important to note that specific research on the use of herbicides to control clitoria has not been undertaken to date. Therefore, the treatment options outlined in Table 1 are suggestions only, based on registered controls for similar weeds in non-agricultural areas and the specifications of PER11463. As such, their effectiveness cannot be guaranteed.

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](http://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](http://www.deedi.qld.gov.au)).

**Table 1. Herbicides registered for the control of clitoria**

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration status	Comments
Spot 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
Spot 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
Spot spray	2,4-D (300 g/L) + picloram (75 g/L)	1 L per 100 L water plus wetting agent	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](http://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.