

Invasive plants and animals

## Singapore daisy

*Sphagneticola trilobata*



**DECLARED CLASS 3**



### The problem

Singapore daisy spreads rapidly and smothers seedling, ferns and shrubs and will out-compete them for survival. It is invading all different environmental areas, even living in sand. Singapore daisy is difficult to control.

### Description

Singapore daisy is a vigorous ground cover with lush glossy green leaves. The leaves are usually 3 lobed and in pairs up the stem. It produces yellow to orange-yellow daisy flowers about 2 cm across all year round. The flowers are held above the leaves on short stalks. Singapore daisy is a garden escapee and native of tropical America.

## Management strategies

Singapore daisy produces variable amounts of seeds but is mainly spread by cuttings via slashing and pruning. Revegetation of the cleared area should be pre planned to ensure that other weeds do not gain a foothold in the disturbed area, include mulching to keep weeds down.

Take care when mowing or slashing around areas planted with Singapore daisy, so as not to transfer the problem elsewhere.

Hand pull and dig up runners. The plant will regrow from the smallest cutting so dispose of waste carefully. Either burn waste or put into a black plastic bag and leave in the sun for a few days before putting into the refuse bin. Repeat hand pulling will need to be done as new regrowth appears.

## Declaration details

Singapore daisy 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 SINGAPORE DAISY**

Method	Herbicide	Rate	Registration status	Comments
Foliar spray	metsulfuron-methyl (600 g/L)	10 g per 100 L water plus wetting agent	DPI Board approval	Spray thoroughly to wet all foliage, but not to cause run-off. Minimise contact with desirable species.

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