



**Liverpool  
Plains**  
Shire Council



**Local Land  
Services**

## **North West Regional Best Practice Guide for: Mesquite**

**Botanical Name:** *Mesquite (Prosopis species)*

**Common Names:** Mesquite

**State Priority Weeds Objective – ERADICATION (whole of region):** The following weeds are present in limited distribution and abundance in some parts of the region. Elimination of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is a reasonably practical objective.

**Mesquite:** A woody weed that invades open grasslands, rangelands and the banks of watercourses, forming thick, impenetrable, thorny thickets. Mesquite has a long lifecycle, very high seed production, the ability to survive droughts and long seed dormancy. Mesquite is native to the America's. It has become an invasive weed in many parts of the world. Originally planted as a fodder, shade and ornamental trees. It has now spread throughout Australia. In New South Wales (NSW), infestations of mesquite have mostly occurred throughout the Broken Hill and Milparinka areas, with isolated plants found in the south-western Riverina district and in the north-western areas of Gilgandra, Coonamble and Bourke. Mesquite has the potential to invade all areas of western NSW.



Photo: Colin G Wilson

### **General Biosecurity Duty – Biosecurity Act 2015**

*All plants are regulated with a **general biosecurity duty** to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.*

### **Regional Recommended Measure:**

#### **Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with GBD**

#### **Entire North West Local Land Service region:**

Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land, Land managers should eradicate the plant from the land and keep the land free of the plant, A person should not deal with the plant, where dealings include but are not limited to buying, selling, growing, keeping, moving, carrying or releasing the plant

Notify local control authority if found.

The following legislative requirement also applies: Mandatory Measure (Division 8, Clause 33 Biosecurity Regulation 2017) A person must not import into the State or sell.

### **Liverpool Plains Shire Council Local Control Requirements**

#### Exclusion Zone in the Region

1. The land is kept free of the plant, and
2. Land managers will mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land.

### **Penalty for not complying with the general biosecurity duty or a direction issued under the Biosecurity Act 2015**

The maximum penalty is:

- in the case of an individual—\$220,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$55,000 for each day the offence continues, or
- in the case of a corporation—\$440,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$110,000 for each day the offence continues.

The maximum penalty for an offence that is committed negligently is:

- in the case of an individual—\$1,100,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$137,500 for each day the offence continues, or
- in the case of a corporation—\$2,200,000 and, in the case of a continuing offence, a further penalty of \$275,000 for each day the offence continues.

## Mesquite Control Calendar

JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
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### GROWTH CYCLES

ACTIVE GROWTH	FLOWERS AND SEED SET
	SEEDS GERMINATE
	ACTIVE GOWTH

### INTERGRATED CONTROL TECHNIQUES AND ALTERNATIVES

PHYSICALLY REMOVE PLANTS AND DESTROY BY BURNING ANYTIME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR	
OPTIMUM HERBICIDE USE	OPTIMUM HERBICIDE USE

#### Registered Herbicide Application Rates:

Please refer to the NSW DPI Website NSW WeedWise. <https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au> for current up to date permits and Registered Chemicals. Or to NSW Weed Control Handbook 2018 7<sup>th</sup> Edition for Chemical Options.

#### Critical Comments:

- Apply when plants are actively growing.
- Consult your LCA Biosecurity Officer- Weeds for application tips
- Always read and follow the Label instructions and SDS of respective herbicides.

#### NOTE:

- (a) All Control Techniques involving herbicide use, must comply with the directions on the herbicide label or the conditions set out in a current permit to use a nominated herbicide.
- (b) All chemical control programs must be carried out in accordance with the *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017.
- (c) All Chemical application programs used must be undertaken by or be designed and supervised by an appropriately Certified and Accredited Chemical user.
- (d) Growth patterns and the changes to optimum treatment times will vary with seasonal conditions due to air temperature changes that may coincide with soil and moisture availability.

#### Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared by the North West Regional Weed Committee and Local Government Control Authorities in good faith and on the basis of best available information. Users of this document must obtain their own advice and conduct their own investigations and assessments of their individual circumstances.

#### Linkage to Plans/Strategies

- North West Regional Strategic Weed management Plan 2023-2027
- NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021
- NSW Biosecurity Act 2015
- *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017

#### References

- *NSW DPI Website /WeedWise/ NSW Weed Control Handbook 2018 7<sup>th</sup> Edition.*

#### For Further Information contact:

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