

North West Regional Best Practice Guide for: Tiger Pear

Botanical Name: *Opuntia aurantiaca*

Common Name: Tiger Pear

Priority Weeds Objective – Asset Protection

These weeds are widely distributed in the region. Their spread should be minimised to protect priority assets.

Tiger Pear: is native to Uruguay and Argentina. Regarded now as the most troublesome of all cactus species in NSW and the worst *Opuntia* species in Qld. Probably introduced in late 1800's, has expanded to infest large parts of southern Qld and northern NSW, inland from the Great Dividing Range. Segments break from plants easily and are transported by water, stock and to a lesser extent by tyres. Extremely hardy, thriving in a range of habitats in the slopes and nearby plains, where large localised infestations still thrive

General Biosecurity Duty – Biosecurity Act 2015

A **general biosecurity duty** applies to all dealings (as defined) with this species. Any person who deals with this species who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk posed by the plant, a carrier or a dealing, has a duty to ensure the biosecurity risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.



Regional Recommended Measure

Outcomes to demonstrate compliance with GBD

Whole of region: Land managers should mitigate the risk of the plant being introduced to their land, Land managers should mitigate spread of the plant from their land, A person should not buy, sell, move, carry or release the plant into the environment, Land managers should reduce the impact of the plant on assets of high economic, environmental and/or social value.

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 Local Control Requirements

1. Reduce the size and density of infested area by physical, mechanical and or chemical control methods, and
2. Eliminate or minimise the risk of spread onto neighbouring lands.

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.

Tiger Pear Control Calendar

JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
GROWTH CYCLES											
SEEDS GERMINATE						SEEDS GERMINATE					
SEGMENTS SET ROOTS ONTO BARE SOIL AFTER RAIN						SEGMENTS SET ROOTS ONTO BARE SOIL AFTER RAIN					
ACTIVE GROWTH						ACTIVE GOWTH					
INTERGRATED CONTROL TECHNIQUES AND ALTERNATIVES											
PHYSICALLY REMOVE PLANTS AND DESTROY BY BURNING ANYTIME THROUGHOUT THE YEAR											
OPTIMUM HERBICIDE USE						OPTIMUM HERBICIDE USE					
FOLLOW UP ANY REGROWTH AS IT APPEARS AND DESTROY BY PHYSICAL REMOVAL OR SPRAY WITH HERBICIDES									RELEASE BIOAGENTS		

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 7th 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
- NSW Invasive Species Plan 2018- 2021
- *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017

References

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

For Further Information:

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