

# The Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017 - 2022



Local Land  
Services  
Northern Tablelands

## Weed Control Management Plan for: Serrated Tussock

**Botanical Name:** *Nassella trichotoma*

**Common Names:** Serrated Tussock, Nasella Tussock, Yass River Tussock

### **Northern Tablelands Regional Priority Weeds Objective – CONTAINMENT (Whole of Region)**

This weed is widely distributed in parts of the region. While broad scale elimination is not practicable, minimisation of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is reasonably practicable.

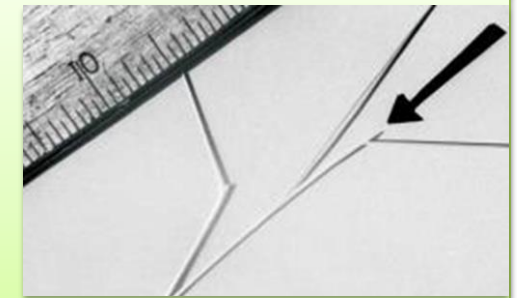
### **General Biosecurity Duty**

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**

- Land managers should prevent spread from their land.
- Land managers should mitigate the risk of new weeds being introduced to their land.
- The plant should not be bought, sold, grown, carried or released into the environment.
- Notify local control authority if found.
- **Mandatory Measure** (Division 8, Clause 33 Biosecurity Regulation 2017)- A person must not import into the State or sell.



Serrated tussock can infest agricultural land ranging from highly arable and fertile areas through to steep and non-arable areas with low fertility. It will colonise both native and introduced pastures, and its spread is most rapid in degraded or disturbed pastures.

Serrated tussock is not palatable for livestock and has little feed value. Significant infestations will dramatically reduce carrying capacities. A well managed pasture can carry around 7–15 dse/ha while heavy infestations of serrated tussock will reduce carrying capacities to as little as 0.5 dse/ha, and moderate infestations can reduce carrying capacity by approximately 40%. It is suggested that serrated tussock decreases carrying capacity proportionally to the level of infestation i.e. a 50% infestation level of serrated tussock reduces carrying capacity by 50%.

Serrated tussock seeds are also a serious contaminant of hay and grain. Farm machinery such as slashers, vehicles and tractors can readily transport seed to clean areas.

Control of serrated tussock within a farming system is on-going and often at great cost to producers, with production from infested country substantially reduced and land values lowered.

### **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.

### **Linkage to Plans/Strategies**

- Northern Tablelands Regional Strategic Weed Management Plan 2017-2022
- NSW Biosecurity Strategy 2013-2021
- NSW Biosecurity Act 2015
- *Pesticides Act 1999* and Pesticide Regulation 2017



**Download the weedwise app for detailed information on priority weeds in our area.**

### **For Further Information:**

Inverell Shire Council

144 Otho Street

Inverell NSW 2360

PH: (02) 6728 8200 <http://inverell.nsw.gov.au/>

or

NSW DPI Weedwise: <http://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/>

or

Northern Tablelands Local Land Services:

<https://northerntablelands.lis.nsw.gov.au/biosecurity>

### **References**

- *NSW DPI Website /Weedwise/ Noxious and Environmental Weed Control Handbook 6<sup>th</sup> Edition.*

### **Disclaimer:**

This document has been prepared by the Northern Tablelands 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 specific advice and conduct their own investigations and assessments of their individual circumstances.

## Serrated Tussock Control Calendar

JAN	FEB	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
HERBICIDE OPTIMAL							HERBICIDE OPTIMAL				
MECHANICAL											

**Registered Herbicide Application Rates:**

Flupropanate 745g/L at 1.5 – 2.0L per ha. (Boom & aerial application. Four month withholding period for blanket application.

Flupropanate 745g/L at 100-200ml per 100L of water (Spot spray from Spring to May. Four month withholding period for blanket application.

Glyphosate 360g/L (off label permit 6675) at 1L per 2L water in wick wiper.

Glyphosate 360g/L (Roundup Biactive®) at 700 -1300ml to 100L water.

**Critical Comments:**

- Consult your weeds officer for application tips
- Always read and follow the Label instructions and MSDS 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.