

NIGHT FLOWERING JASMINE



BYRON
SHIRE
COUNCIL

Cestrum nocturnum



Description

Multi-stemmed perennial large shrub or small tree to 4m high with white round berries. Sparsely hairy new growth. Leaves narrow-ovate to elliptic, 10-15 cm long, 4-7 cm wide, with hairy lower midrib. Flowers greenish yellow, in congested spike-like racemes at the end of short stems, releasing strong perfume at night. Fruit green when young, white when ripe.

Flowering time

Spring to Summer.

Impacts

Readily colonises disturbed areas and understories of open forest where it forms thickets out-competing native plants. **All parts of this plant are poisonous to humans and livestock. Perfume can cause breathing difficulties.**

Habitat

A weed of waterways, riparian vegetation, wetlands and the margins of waterbodies.

Origin

West Indies, Central America

How is it spread

By seed plants can produce thousands of seeds each year. Seeds are more viable after passing the gut of an animal and seedlings are often found under trees where birds have perched. Seeds may also spread via contaminated soil, in floodwaters and by people dumping garden waste.

By plant parts stems or root fragments can regrow.

Similar species



- Green cestrum / Green Poison Berry *Cestrum parqui* which has yellow flowers and black fruit.
- Red cestrum / Elegant Poison Berry *Cestrum elegans* which has red flowers and red fruit.

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Control Methods

PHYSICAL REMOVAL

By hand Dig out small plants or use a tree popper. Do not leave stems in contact with the soil because they may sprout.

CHEMICAL CONTROL

Spot spraying to thoroughly cover all of the foliage. Spraying will not kill the fruit. If possible collect the fruit and dispose of it.

Basal barking apply herbicide mixed with diesel to cover the lower stem, all the way around.

Splatter gun can be used for dense infestations of weeds that are difficult to reach. The specialised nozzle produces large droplets that allow plants up to 10 m away to be sprayed with limited chance of spray drift. Spray small amounts of concentrated herbicide on the weeds. It is not necessary to cover all of the foliage.

Cut stump method cut the main stem and apply herbicide to the stump within 15 seconds of cutting.

Weed wipers to apply herbicide directly onto leaves. This can be used for small infestations and will minimise damage to other species.

Best Season

All year but best prior to fruiting.

Biosecurity Duty

All pest 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.

Herbicide

WARNING - ALWAYS READ THE LABEL

Users of agricultural or veterinary chemical products must always read the label and any permit, before using the product, and strictly comply with the directions on the label and the conditions of any permit. Users are not absolved from compliance with the directions on the label or the conditions of the permit by reason of any statement made or not made in this information. To view permits or product labels go to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority website www.apvma.gov.au. See [Using herbicides](#) for more information.

PERMIT [9907](#) Expires 31/03/2025

More information

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/LadyOfTheNight>



Weed Wise