

African thistle (*Berkheya rigida*)



Declaration

(Code: C= City; S=Shire; T=Town)

Category : P1, P3

Location : For the whole of the State

Standard Control Codes (these may vary for individual plants)	
P1 REQUIREMENTS Prohibits movement	The movement of plants or their seeds is prohibited within the State. This prohibits the movement of contaminated machinery and produce including livestock and fodder.



<p style="text-align: center;">P3 REQUIREMENTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Aims to control infestation by reducing area and/or density of infestation</p>	<p>The infested area must be managed in such a way that prevents the spread of seed or plant parts within and from the property on or in livestock, fodder, grain, vehicles and/or machinery.</p> <p>Treat to destroy and prevent seed set all plants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • within 100 metres inside of the boundaries of the infestation • within 50 metres of roads and high-water mark on waterways • within 50 metres of sheds, stock yards and houses <p>Treatment must be done prior to seed set each year.</p> <p>Of the remaining infested area:-</p> <p>Where plant density is 1-10 per hectare treat 100% of infestation.</p> <p>Where plant density is 11-100 per hectare treat 50% of infestation.</p> <p>Where plant density is 101-1000 per hectare treat 10% of infestation.</p> <p>Properties with less than 2 hectares of infestation must treat the entire infestation.</p> <p>Additional areas may be ordered to be treated.</p>
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Control Method

Recommended herbicides	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring - before flowering 2,4-D amine Clopyralid + MCPA
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Herbicide	:	2,4-D amine (various trade names - AVPMA site)
Active ingredient	:	a) 500 g/litre 2,4-D amine (Group I) b) 625 g/L
Amount of product per 10 litres water	:	a) 50 mL b) 40 mL
Wetting agent dilution	:	1:400
Time of application	:	Seedlings to early flowering stage
Remarks	:	Permit required if spraying within 5 km of a commercial vineyard or tomato garden

Herbicide	:	Clopyralid (Group I) + MCPA (Group I) (various trade names - AVPMA site)
Active ingredient	:	300 g/L clopyralid + 500 g/L MCPA amine
Amount of product per 10 litres water	:	5 mL clopyralid + 15 mL MCPA
Wetting agent dilution	:	1:400
Time of application	:	Seedlings to early flowering stage
Remarks	:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit required if spraying within 5 km of a commercial vineyard or tomato garden • Avoid spraying other vegetation, especially clovers • Could also use clopyralid formulation 750 g/kg – rates adjusted to 2 g/10L



Weed Description

Family : Asteraceae
Form : Herbaceous – Perennial
Status : Present in WA

A creeping plant native of South Africa, also known as Berkheya thistle, Hamelin thistle and Augusta thistle.

African thistle is a herbaceous perennial plant 0.3 to 0.6 m high. It has an extensive root system with creeping underground stems (rhizomes).

Leaves : It has spiny leaves about 5-10 cm long densely covered with white hairs on the lower surface with deeply cut spiny lobes.

Flowers : Heads of small yellow flowers on short peduncles (flower stalks). The flower head is surrounded by pointed green bracts.

Seeds : Smooth, 2.5 mm long and without the normal feathery pappus of other thistles. Seeds may remain dormant for several years in the soil.

Other relevant information related to this topic:

- [Quarantine WA](#)
- [Permitted and quarantine species list](#)
- [Permit for minor off-label-use of a registered agvet chemical product](#)
(Permit number – per9655)
- [Off-label permit \(olp\) for use of a registered agvet chemical product](#)
(Permit number – per13236)