

## Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)



### Declaration

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

**Category :** P1, P2

**Location :** for the whole of the State

Standard Control Codes (these may vary for individual plants)	
<p><b>P1</b> <b>REQUIREMENTS</b> Prohibits movement</p>	<p>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>
<p><b>P2</b> <b>REQUIREMENTS</b> Aim is to eradicate infestation</p>	<p>Treat all plants to destroy and prevent propagation each year until no plants remain. The infested area must be managed in such a way that prevents the spread of seed or plant parts on or in livestock, fodder, grain, vehicles and/or machinery.</p>

### Control Method

<p><b>Recommended herbicides</b></p>	<p>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Casoron®</b></li> <li>• <b>Metsulfuron methyl</b></li> <li>• <b>Glyphosate</b></li> </ul>
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<b>Herbicide</b>	:	<b>Casoron®</b>
<b>Active ingredient</b>	:	67.5 g/kg diclofenil ( Group K)
<b>Rate of product use</b>	:	22 g per square metre
<b>Remarks</b>	:	Normally applied as a granule treatment, but can be mixed with water and applied as a foliar spray. In this case add a wetting agent such as BS-1000 @ 1 mL/L. Do not apply to flowing water. Only apply to alligator weed mats.

<b>Herbicide</b>	:	<b>Metsulfuron methyl</b> ( <a href="#">various trade names - AVPMA site</a> )
<b>Active ingredient</b>	:	600 g/kg metsulfuron methyl (Group B)
<b>Amount of product per 10 litres water</b>	:	1 g
<b>Rate of product use</b>	:	80g/ha.
<b>Wetting agent dilution</b>	:	1:1000 Non ionic surfactant such as BS-1000
<b>Remarks</b>	:	Follow up treatment will be required. Healthy plants may need to be treated at fortnightly intervals. The addition of glyphosate (360) at 100 mL/10 L may improve control.

<b>Herbicide</b>	:	<b>Roundup, Biactive, Razor , Erazo, Weedmaster 360 Herbicide</b>
<b>Active ingredient</b>	:	360 g/L glyphosate as the isopropylamine salt <b>(Group M)</b>
<b>Amount of product per 10 litres water</b>	:	100 mL
<b>Wetting agent dilution</b>	:	1:1000 - Using a non ionic surfactant such as BS-1000
<b>Time of application</b>	:	Summer to winter

<b>Herbicide</b>	:	<b>Nufarm Credit Broadhectare Herbicide</b>
<b>Active ingredient</b>	:	540 g/L glyphosate present as the isopropylamine salt and mono-ammonium salts as the only active ingredient. <b>(Group M)</b>
<b>Amount of product per 10 litres water</b>	:	66 mL – 86 mL
<b>Wetting agent dilution</b>	:	Nufarm Bonus adjuvant/surfactant. At rates for a 1:1 ratio ie. 66 mL of Bonus add 66 mL Credit
<b>Time of application</b>	:	Summer to winter



## Weed Description

**Family** : Amaranthaceae  
**Form** : Aquatic  
**Status** : Present in WA

Alligator weed is a perennial aquatic plant that can also grow on swampy land and in irrigated domestic gardens. On water, it forms dense floating or rooted mats up to one metre deep. It prefers static or slowly flowing fresh water with high nutrient levels, but will withstand brackish conditions. Alligator weed spreads by stolons that grow outwards, forming new roots at the nodes. Short lengths of stem can break off and develop into a new plant. It forms seeds, but they do not appear to be viable in Australia, therefore spread is entirely by vegetative reproduction. It is a Weed of National Significance.

- Stem.** Hollow with hairy grooves on opposite sides of the internodes.
- Leaves.** Dark green, opposite, joined directly to the stem (ie no leaf stalks) 2-7 cm long 5-40 mm wide. Blade - waxy surface and conspicuous veins radiating from midrib
- Flowers.** Silvery white in spherical or cylindrical heads 1.2-1.4 cm diameter, borne on hairless or only slightly hairy stalks 2-7 cm long arising from the leaf axils. Five petals 5-6 mm long 4 nerved and papery when dry.
- Fruit.** Brownish, thin skinned - bladder like and flattened.
- Seed.** Not quite round, and smooth surface, rarely, if ever produced in Australia.

### Other relevant information related to this topic:

- [Quarantine WA](#)
- [Wetlands not weedlands](#)
- [Permitted and quarantine species list](#)
- [Weeds of National Significance](#)
- [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)