Managing Opuntioid Cacti in Australia:
A best practice control manual for Austrocyldropuntia, Cylindropuntia and Opuntia species

The problem with cacti:
27 species of opuntioid cacti have naturalised throughout Australia. Cacti form dense infestations that degrade native vegetation and reduce grazing productivity. The plant's sharp spines can cause serious injury to humans, stock and native animals. Opuntioid cacti are drought tolerant and are notoriously difficult to control.

Increasing our knowledge:
A project, supported by the Agriculture Competitiveness Whitepaper Initiative, engaged land managers from across Australia to develop a national best practice management manual for invasive opuntioid cacti. The manual increases our understanding of available management options.

Where you can get it:
Online: http://agric.wa.gov.au/cactusmanual
Available from 1 November 2017

Hard copy: Order a copy by calling (08) 9368 3333
Available from December 2017

Summary of the six chapters

1. BIOLGY AND THREAT
   - What are opuntioid cacti and why are they a problem?
   - What do they look like?
   - How do they spread?

2. PLANNING
   - Why is planning important?
   - How do I prioritise areas for control?
   - How do I develop a cacti management plan?

3. SAFETY AND WELFARE
   - What risks do cacti pose?
   - How do I avoid, manage and treat injury?
   - How do I identify and assess risk?

4. MANAGEMENT
   - Which management methods are best for my situation?
   - How should I integrate management methods?
   - How can I get the best results?

5. CASE STUDIES
   - What are other land managers doing?
   - What has been tried on hard to access land?
   - Examples of how the information in this manual can be used in practice.

6. FURTHER INFORMATION
   - What is my legal obligation to manage opuntioid cacti?
   - Who can I contact if I need more help?
   - What other information is available?
   - What do terms used in the manual mean?