



Ipswich City Council Pest Survey Program

1 December 2011 – 29 February 2012

Ipswich City Council's Pest Survey Program is to inform landholders under section 242 of the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*, of inspections that will be conducted for Declared Pests throughout the Ipswich City Council area.

Advertisement of this survey in the local news papers will allow authorised officers to enter land without the landholders consent to carry out necessary inspections for the compliance of Declared Pests under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*.

A list of certain declared plants and animals targeted for inspection are included, however this list is not limited to other species of declared pests found during the survey program.

Under section 78 of the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*, Council may give the landowner a written notice to control declared pests located on their property.

If you have any further enquires concerning this Pest Survey Program, or are aware of new infestations not mentioned please contact Ipswich City Council on 3810 6666.

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Mother of millions (*Byrophyllum delagoense* and *B. daigremontianum* x *B.*

*delagoense*; Syn. *Bryophyllum tubiflorum* and *B. daigremontianum* x *B. tubiflorum*)

### Declared Animals

Dingo, Wild dog, other than domestic dog (*Canis familiaris dingo* & *Canis familiaris*)

European fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

Feral pig (*Sus scrofa*)

Giant rats tail grass  
(*Sporobolus pyramidalis* & *S. natalensis*)

**Background Information:** GRT is aggressive, has low palatability when mature and is difficult to control. GRT can quickly dominate a pasture, especially following overgrazing or soil disturbance. Mature leaf blades are tough and difficult for cattle to graze. Commercial properties have shown that a heavy GRT infestation can reduce carrying capacities and decrease stock weight gains. Stock can take an extra 12 months to finish on GRT infested pastures and stocking rates have halved. Anecdotal evidence suggests weaning percentages and weights are also reduced.

**Description:** Robust, tufted perennial grass 1-1.7m high. The seed head can be up to 40cm long and 3cm wide. Seed heads change shape from a "rats tail" spike when young, to an elongated pyramid shape when flowering.



**Local Distribution:**

- Redbank Plains
- Mt Walker
- Marburg
- Mt Mort

**Chemical Control:**

- Flupropanate (broad acre spray)
- Glyphosate (spot spray)

**Rubber vine**  
*(Cryptostegia grandiflora)*

**Background Information:** Rubber vine generally invades waterways first, Where the seeds germinate in moist silt layers after rain. The plant smothers riparian vegetation and forms dense, sometimes impenetrable thickets. Infestations expand outward from waterways, colonising river falls, hillsides and pastures, resulting in loss of grazing land and increased difficulty in mustering stock. The plant is poisonous to stock. Rubber vines ability to spread and colonise areas quickly has lead to it becoming a threat to many other areas of northern Australia. Due to this ability Rubber vine was nominated as a Weed of National Significance.

**Description:** Rubber vine is a vigorous climber with twining and whip-like shoots. 1-2 m high or it can scramble up to 30m in trees. The stem, leaves and unripe pods exude a white milky sap when broken or cut. Leaves are dark green and somewhat glossy, 6-10cm long, 3-5cm wide, and in opposite pairs. Flowers are large and showy, with five white to light purple petals arranged in a funnel shape. The seed pods are rigid and grow in pairs at the end of a short stalk. The pods are 10-12 cm long, 3-4 cm wide and each can contain up to 450 brown seeds. Each seed has a tuff of long white silky hairs which enables easy dispersal by wind and water.



**Local Distribution:**

- Bundamba Creek, Raceview

**Chemical control:**

- Triclopyr + Picloram
- Grazon DS
- 2,4-D Ester
- 2,4-D Amine

Annual ragweed  
(*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*)

**Background Information:** Annual ragweed is a fast growing, introduced plant, which can invade and suppress poorly managed pastures. Infestations can become particularly dense in pastures, which are overgrazed. It is potentially a serious health hazard. The pollen contains highly potent allergens, which cause respiratory allergies such as hay fever and can aggravate asthma.

**Description:** Erect annual plant up to 2m high, light green fern like leaves. Flowers pale green to cream during autumn.



**Local Distribution:**

Along :

- Brisbane River
- Purga Creek
- Bundamba Creek
- Bremer river

Also scattered throughout Ipswich

**Chemical control:**

- 2,4-D Amine
- Kamba 500
- AF 300

**Honey locust**  
*(Gleditsia spp. Including cultivars and varieties)*

**Background Information:** Honey locust tree is a large rapidly growing tree. In the past it has been deliberately promoted and planted in Australia as a fodder tree and garden ornamental. Although beneficial in the short-term as stock feed, the long-term consequences of its growth and spread are counter-productive. Honey locust tree is considered a serious pest in agriculture, the environment and for social reasons.

**Description:** Perennial deciduous tree up to 20m tall. Trunk and limbs often covered in large crucifix like spines. Leaves are about 10cm long with about 12 opposite paired leaflets per leaf. Creamy yellow flowers on hanging stalks during October to November.



**Local Distribution:**

- Brisbane River – Kholo & Colleges Crossing
- Pine Mountain
- Franklin Vale
- Mt Mort
- Mutdapilly

**Chemical Control:**

- Access
- Starane 200

Salvinia  
(*Salvinia molesta*)

**Background Information:** Salvinia reproduces vegetatively from fragments and can form large, thick mats that can completely cover water storage areas in a relatively short time. Because Salvinia can grow a number of layers it creates an artificial 'ground', which can be mistaken for sure, ground. High rates of transpiration through the leaves during summer can cause up to four times the loss of water from normal water surface evaporation. As plant material decomposes it causes water pollution and stagnation through a reduction in the water quality and oxygen content, resulting in death of aquatic wildlife and fish.

**Description:** Free floating aquatic plant. Leaves bright green, oval in shape, about 2cm wide. Leaf surface is covered with long, stiff, water-repellent hairs. No flowers produced. Long filamentous roots resemble wet hairs.



**Local Distribution:**

- Sandy Creek Camira
- Brisbane river
- Found in dams

**Chemical Control:**

- AF 100
- REGLONE

Water hyacinth  
(*Eichhornia crassipes*)

**Background Information:** Rampant growth of water hyacinth can destroy native wetlands and waterways, killing native fish and other wildlife. Water hyacinth can form dense mats and spread out across water surfaces eventually choking the entire water body. Stock may have difficulty gaining access to drinking water if the surface is completely covered by weeds.

**Description:** Perennial water weed with dark green rounded leaves on bulbous stems. Normally free floating. Fibrous root system up to 1m long. Flowers are dark blue to purple with a yellow centre carried on stalks above the plant.



**Local Distribution:**

**Along:**

- Brisbane River
- Localised throughout Ipswich
- Found in dams

**Chemical Control:**

- WEEDMASTER DUO
- 2,4D AMINE
- AF 300/AFFRAY 300

Groundsel bush  
(*Baccharis halimifolia*)

**Background Information:** Groundsel bush is a rapid coloniser of cleared, unused land and is particularly suited to moist gullies, salt marsh areas and wetlands. It also does well on high cleared slopes. It competes with pasture species for water and nutrients. Seeds from mature plants drift in the breeze like thistle seeds, most falling within a few metres of the parent bush. Wind updraughts can carry seeds many kilometres.

**Description:** A bushy perennial shrub up to 6 M high. Leaves pale green with serrated edge. Female plants have white flowers. Most germination occurs in the autumn/winter period.



**Local Distribution:**

- Scattered throughout Ipswich

**Chemical Control:**

- 2,4D AMINE
- ACCESS
- GRAZON DS
- GLYPHOSATE

**Parthenium**  
(*Parthenium hysterophorus*)

**Background Information:** Parthenium weed is a vigorous species that colonises weak pastures with sparse ground cover. It will readily colonise disturbed, bare areas along roadsides and heavily stocked areas around yards and watering points. Parthenium weed can also colonise brigalow, gidgee, and soft wood scrub soils. Its presence reduces the reliability of improved pasture establishment and reduces pasture production potential. Parthenium weed is also a health problem as contact with the plant or the pollen can cause serious allergic reactions such as dermatitis and hay fever.

**Description:** Erect annual plant up to 2m high with a deep tap root. Multi branched stems in the upper part of the plant, with fern like green foliage that is deeply lobed and covered in fine soft hairs. Small white flowers occur on the numerous tips of the stems. Often confused with Bishops weed, Hemlock or Annual ragweed.



**Local Distribution:**

- Thagoona
- Haigslea

**Chemical Control:**

- AMICIDE 625
- 2,4D AMINE
- ATRAZINE
- TORDON
- METSULFURON

### Mother of millions

(*Byrophyllum delagoense* and *B. daigremontianum* x *B. delagoense*; Syn. *Bryophyllum tubiflorum* and *B. daigremontianum* x *B. tubiflorum*)

**Background Information:** These plants, and especially their flowers, are poisonous to stock and occasionally cause a significant number of cattle deaths. Since the plant flowers from May to October, during the dryer months of the year, the scarcity of feed may cause cattle to consume lethal amounts of Mother of millions.

**Description:** Erect perennial plants up to 60cm high with thick, succulent leaves of various shapes and spikes of bell-shaped, orange flowers. Usually very conspicuous when flowering in winter.



**Local Distribution:**

- Scattered throughout Ipswich

**Chemical control:**

- AF 300/AFFRAY 300
- STARANE 200
- GRAZON DS
- AMICIDE 625

Dingo, Wild dog, other than domestic dog  
(*Canis familiaris dingo* & *Canis familiaris*)

Background Information:

Wild dog refers collectively to purebred dingoes, dingo hybrids and domestic dogs that have escaped or been deliberately released. They kill, harass or maim domestic animals and native wildlife, and in semi-urban areas, they may threaten human safety.



Local Distribution:

- Ripley
- Springfield
- Purga Goolman
- White Rock
- Swanbank
- Rosewood
- Grandchester

European fox  
(*Vulpes vulpes*)

**Background Information:**

European foxes spread rapidly following their release in 1845 and are now present across Australia. They are adaptable and found in a variety of habitats. Foxes are opportunistic feeders which threaten the survival of many ground dwelling native animals. In rural areas, they can kill lambs and goat kids, and in urban areas they are a pest due to their scavenging and predation of wildlife, poultry and domestic pets. They would probably become a major vector of rabies should it enter Australia.



**Local Distribution:**

- Scattered throughout Ipswich, mainly in rural areas, however have been captured in urban areas.

Feral pig  
(*Sus scrofa*)

**Background Information:**

Early settlers introduced domestic pigs, and subsequent accidental and deliberate releases resulted in the establishment of feral populations. Feral pigs are suited to a range of habitats but prefer dense cover. They are omnivorous, opportunistic feeders which kill and eat lambs, damage pasture and crops, and damage agricultural infrastructure. They are carriers of endemic and exotic diseases. Feral pigs have a significant impact on the natural environment through wallowing, digging and predation.



**Local Distribution:**

- Redbank Plains
- Springfield
- Mt Flinders