



Narrabri Shire Council Management Plan for African Boxthorn

(Lycium ferocissimum)

Plan No: AB01/2006

African Boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) is a hardy plant, able to withstand droughts, fire and frosts. The plant can grow to 5m in height and become an impenetrable thicket. It can obstruct watercourses and over-run neglected pastures.

The branches of the African Boxthorn are stiff and possess thorns and spine-like tips. The leaves are bright green, smooth and seemingly fleshy in appearance. The flowers have five distinct petals, are pale white/purple in colour and usually present during Spring and Summer. The fruit is a fleshy bright orange/red berry, 1-2 cm in diameter (similar to a cherry tomato).

In the Narrabri Shire, African Boxthorn is gazetted as a Class 4 noxious weed under Schedule 4 of Weed Control Order 19 (Order 19) made pursuant to section 7 and 8 of the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993* (the Act) as amended in 2005. Class 4 noxious weeds are plants that pose a threat to primary production, the environment or human health, are widely distributed in an area to which the order applies and are likely to spread in the area or to another area.

Order 19 also provides that the growth and spread of this plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a management plan published by the Local Control Authority (LCA). To comply with Order 19, African Boxthorn must be managed in such a way as to minimise the negative impact of the weed on the economy, community or the environment of NSW.

CONTROL MEASURES

African Boxthorn must be managed to reduce its numbers and distribution, with negative impact on neighbouring properties. Areas within 100 metres of a property boundary must be continuously clear of African Boxthorns.

Owners/occupiers may use either or both of the following control methods:

- a. **Mechanical:** physical removal of all the crown and root material of African Boxthorn.
- b. **Chemical:** effective treatment with a herbicide registered for the control of African Boxthorn, in the manner specified on the label. This treatment should be undertaken during the winter months before berry ripening stage

Narrabri Shire Council (NSC) Weeds Officers will inspect private and crown land for infestations of African Boxthorn. NSC will also undertake control work with allocated funds on Crown Land and land for which it has responsibility.

Enforcement through court action is an LCA option for non-compliance with Section 12 of the Act by the owner/occupier of private land.

The plan will remain in force until 1 March 2011 and Council may review, vary or revoke this plan in accordance with the Act.

Further information about this plan can be obtained from NSC by phone (02) 6799 6702, fax (02) 6762 4301 or by mail to PO Box 261, Narrabri NSW 2390.

Adopted: 21 November 2006

Revision Date: 1 March 2011

Authorised:
Acting General Manager