



Narrabri Shire Council Management Plan for Perennial Ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*)

Plan No: PR01/2006

Perennial Ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*) is a weed of crops and pasture. It grows in dense colonies. Its pollen can trigger allergies as can contact with the skin. The spiked seeds are dispersed by animals.

Perennial Ragweed grows to 1.5m in height and has hairy stems. The leaves are opposite below and alternate above, grey-green and both surfaces are hairy. The plant seeds in spring, with the seeds being 3-4mm long with an obvious beak and the plant flowers in summer and early autumn

In the Narrabri Shire, Perennial Ragweed 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, Perennial Ragweed 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

Perennial Ragweed must be continuously suppressed and destroyed.

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

- a. **Mechanical:** physical removal of larger plants is not always effective due to the difficulty of removing the entire root system. Physical removal may be effective where the size of the infestation is small or plants are small.
- b. **Chemical:** effective treatment with a herbicide registered for the control of Perennial Ragweed, in the manner specified on the label.

Narrabri Shire Council (NSC) Weeds Officers will inspect private and crown land for infestations of Perennial Ragweed. 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
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Authorised:
Acting General Manager