



Trading as:

NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY

ABN: 35 514 070 354

129 Rusden Street, ARMIDALE NSW 2350 - PO Box 881, ARMIDALE NSW 2350
Ph: 02 6770 3602 Fax: 02 6771 1893 Email: newa@newa.nsw.gov.au

MANAGEMENT PLAN

for

GIANT PARRAMATTA GRASS

(*Sporobolus fertilis*)

BACKGROUND

Description: Giant Parramatta Grass is a coarse tussocky grass that grows to a height of 2 metres. The seed heads are up to 40cm long and resemble a rat's tail. It is a native of South Africa which is now widespread on coastal soils, especially along the north coast of New South Wales. Giant Parramatta Grass is an aggressive, unpalatable perennial grass that has the ability to invade established pastures. It is spread by the movement of seed, which, when damp, readily attaches to animal fur, clothes, machinery and vehicles and then falls off as it dries.

Declaration: Giant Parramatta Grass is classified as a Class 4 noxious weed in the New England Weeds Authority Area.

Under the *Noxious Weeds Act of 1993* as amended:

- The control objective of Class 4 noxious weeds is that they must be managed in such a way as to 'minimise the negative impact of the weed on the economy, community or the environment of New South Wales'.
- The growth and spread of the plant must be controlled according to the measures specified in a Management Plan published by the Local Control Authority (in this case the New England Weeds Authority).

CONTROL MEASURES

The New England Weeds Authority will control Giant Parramatta Grass growing on land for which it has the responsibility to control weeds under the *Noxious Weeds Act 1993*.

Owners/Occupiers of land are required to actively control Giant Parramatta Grass to prevent it from spreading to adjoining properties and/or areas that are free of Giant Parramatta Grass.

Owners/Occupiers of infested land are required to keep roads/access tracks and other frequently used areas (e.g. around yards, electricity meters and sheds) in a condition free of Giant Parramatta Grass. A ten (10) metre buffer zones along boundary fences, roads and watercourses is required to be maintained in a condition free of seed bearing Giant Parramatta Grass in the following manner:

- (a) **CHEMICAL** – The Giant Parramatta Grass is to be treated with a herbicide registered for the control of Giant Parramatta Grass, in the manner specified on the label, to prevent the formation and distribution of seed; OR
- (b) **MECHANICAL** – The Giant Parramatta Grass is to be hoed, grubbed, ploughed, slashed, or otherwise cut, in a manner that prevents the formation and distribution of seed.