



Trading as:

NEW ENGLAND WEEDS AUTHORITY

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MANAGEMENT PLAN for LONG-STYLE FEATHER GRASS

(*Pennisetum villosum*)

BACKGROUND

Description: Long-style Feather Grass is an erect densely tussock-forming perennial grass 30 to 70cm high that reproduces from seed and rhizomes. Stems are cylindrical, erect or slightly bent, often branched at the lower nodes up to 70cm long with several emerging from the crown. Leaves are green to blue green, finely serrated on the edges with up to 6 leaves per stem. The inflorescence is a pale greenish sometimes purple tinged feathery spike like panicle to 12 cm long. Seeds are yellow brown to 3mm long. Roots are a dense fibrous mass to 60cm deep. Long-style Feather Grass tends to displace other species in urban and rural environments and is a weed of roadsides and disturbed areas.

Declaration: Long-style Feather 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 Long-style Feather 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 Long-style Feather Grass to prevent it from spreading, and its numbers and distribution must be reduced.

Owners/Occupiers of infested land are required to control Long-style Feather Grass in the following manner:

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