

METHOD	HERBICIDE	RATE
Cut Stump	Tordon, Treeson or Slogger	50ml/1L
Cut Stump	Vigilant Gel	Apply gel directly
Cut Stump	360 Glyphosate + Kamba M	85ml/1L 35ml/1L
Foliar Spray	360 Glyphosate + Kamba M	15ml/1L 6ml/1L
Foliar Spray	Kamba M	6ml/1L

Permit number PER11463

Cut stump method: Cut all vines at the base of the tree trunk and spray within 15 seconds. Stems larger than 15mm in diameter require an extra spray or two. Regularly monitor for regrowth and repeat chemical application as necessary.

Foliar method: Do not use on dry soil or within 12 hours of predicated rainfall.

Physical Control

Dig up tubers

Each Cats Claw runner sets underground tubers. Dig up tubers when the ground is moist and destroy, either by burning or seal in black plastic bags and leave in the sun to bake (solarisation).

Cut the vines

Cut the vines and use herbicide as listed above. Do not cut the vine without chemicals as this may encourage the vine to grow.

Biocontrol Options

Jewel Beetles

Place adult jewel beetles on healthy vine growing into the canopy in sunny locations. The adult beetles eat the leaves and the larvae mine inside the leaves.

Bio-Control Options Continued

Beetles should not be released amongst unhealthy vines, vines affected by drought and leaves smothered in dust, silt or have or will be chemically treated.

Repeated releases are recommended to establish a healthy population.

Tingid Bug

Place cut Cats Claw Creeper infested with the Tingid bug onto healthy vine in shady areas. Tingids suck the sap from the plant which causes chlorosis (leaves whiten from the lack of chlorophyll) and reduces the vine's ability to photosynthesis.

Tingids should not be released among unhealthy vine, vines being grazed, vines affected by drought and leaves smothered in dust, silt or have or will be chemically treated.

Repeated releases are recommended to establish a healthy population.



Jewel Beetle



Tingid Bug

Cnr Groves & Old Maryborough Roads, Gympie

07 5483 8866

NURSERY OPEN

WED - FRIDAY 8:30am to 3:30pm
SATURDAY 9:00am to 1:00pm

OFFICE OPEN

TUES - THURS 8:30am to 5:00pm
FRIDAY 8:30am to 4:00pm

www.gympielandcare.org.au

Control Options for CATS CLAW CREEPER

Cats Claw Creeper is a huge problem in the Gympie region. The vine can densely carpet the ground, smothering understory vegetation, and prevent recruitment of young native plants.



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The vine climbs trees covering the canopy and eventually killing mature trees. Mature vines increase the risk of riverbank erosion during flooding and reduce the economic value of forestry areas. Once the native vegetation has gone the habitat of wildlife is lost.

1 2 3 STEPS in Cats Claw Creeper Control

1 Understand the enemy

Cats Claw Creeper is a long-lived perennial vine that carpets the ground and produces an extensive network of underground tubers. The vine climbs over understory and canopy trees, crops up and throughout pastures. The vine produces light papery-winged seeds that are spread by wind and water. Most seed are nonviable within 12 months.

2 Decide on a plan of attack

Priority 1: Stop seeding. This is done by stopping vines reaching into the tree canopy. Best results come from cutting and immediate application of herbicide to the stump.

Priority 2: Eradicate new or isolated infestations. Especially target areas of good native vegetation or economically valuable forests. Best results come from chemical control of young seedlings before tuber networks have become established.

Priority 3: Protect important flora and fauna habitat. Identify sites that supports rare species, animal habitat or mature seed trees and keep the vine under control. Best results will come from cutting climbing vines and a mix of bio-control and chemical agents.

Priority 4: Control well established infestations. This can be done progressively through a combination of cutting climbing vines to prevent seeding; control of spreading vines; and use of chemicals and biocontrol agents.

3 Keep at it!

Perseverance to control regrowth is the key to success. If the leafy part of the plant is controlled, and the tubers repeatedly receive herbicide, eventually the tubers will die, and regrowth will stop.

Every significant native tree you keep alive by controlling Cats Claw Creeper you should count as a success.

Eradication

It may be possible to eradicate small and isolated Cats Claw Creeper infestations by repeated physical and chemical control, with monitoring 2 or 3 times a year for regrowth followed by retreatment as necessary.

1. Cut all vines climbing up tree trunks or large shrubs to prevent flowering and seed set. Check and re-cut are necessary every 12 months. After 12 months most seeds from the previous flowering will be nonviable.

2. The most effective chemical method is cut-stump control of climbing vines (chemicals applied to the stump immediately on cutting) followed by spot spraying of vines at ground level. Read the chemical label carefully before use and always use the herbicide in accordance with the directions.

The initial plants will have grown from wind dispersed seeds. Continued arrival of seeds is likely. Monitor for new plants and eradicate them. Spot spraying seedlings before significant tuber growth is recommended.

Persevere! If the leafy part of the plant is repeatedly controlled, eventually the tubers will die, and regrowth stopped.

Control Outbreak & Reduce Spreading

This is the best option where eradication is impossible because an infestation is well established and extends over a significant area.

1. Set smart goals.

- (a) Start at the top of a catchment and work your way down
- (b) Start at the edge of an infestation and work towards the centre
- (c) Stop flowering and seeding by cutting climbing vines

2. A mix of all control measures will give you the best results. Cut vines climbing up trees and apply chemicals to the stump to stop flowering. Apply foliar spray to dense vine on the ground or release biocontrol agents.

3. Check and retreat as necessary every year.

4. Encourage regeneration of native vegetation by clearing and applying chemicals to weeds to at least 1 metre around young regeneration plants. Check and repeat every few months.

Do not release biocontrol insects where you have recently sprayed or that you will be spraying in the new few months. Consider releasing insects at sites separate to areas that have been chemical controlled.

Chemical Control Options

The current Queensland government guidelines for chemical control are listed below. Ensure vines are actively growing at the time of treatment and not under stress of drought, waterlogging or in the colder months. Damaged vines cannot efficiently take up foliar herbicide. Wet leaves thoroughly but avoid run off. Avoid non target species trying to grow under and among the vines.