

Sweet Pittosporum



Common Name: Sweet Pittosporum

Botanical Name: Pittosporum undulatum

Origin: East Gippsland, NSW & QLD

Size: 10m H

Seeds: Winter

Best removal time:
Late Winter to Mid Spring

How to dispose weeds:

Recovery & Transfer centres:

- Healesville
- Wesburn
- Coldstream
- Lysterfield

Note: For a free tip voucher to dispose weeds, contact the Environment Dept. on 1300 368 333. Limited availability.

OR

Fortnightly Garden Organics Bin Service. *Note: This service is only available to properties within eligible service areas. For more information, contact the Waste Management services on 1300 368 333.*

OR

Bundled green waste service. *Note: Check your Residential Recycling & Waste guide for details of the next service in your area.*

What it does...

Sweet Pittosporum has a dense canopy that shades the ground and drops lots of leaves, preventing indigenous plants from growing beneath. It has contributed to changes in lizard and bird populations by reducing habitat for these species. It is also fire sensitive and the leaves are very flammable. Sweet Pittosporum establishes very quickly and starves surrounding plants of nutrients, water and sunlight.

Leaves usually sit horizontally. Leaves are glossy dark green and paler underneath with an undulating edge. Flowers are creamy white and bell shaped with a sweet fragrance. The fruit are hard berries or capsules, green turning orange when ripe in winter, when they split, they expose 20-30 sticky orange-red seeds.

How it spreads...

Seeds are mainly spread:

- by birds, possums and occasionally by foxes.
- by dumping garden waste and contaminated soil.

How to remove it...



HAND: Hand removal is only recommended for very small plants, ensure the root system is removed and the disturbed area is covered over with mulch to reduce spread of other weeds.



CUT & PAINT: Cut plants off at ground level and immediately paint the stump with an undiluted glyphosate based product. This is useful for larger seedlings that are too hard to hand pull but should not be attempted on trees greater than 50 mm as they are likely to resprout.



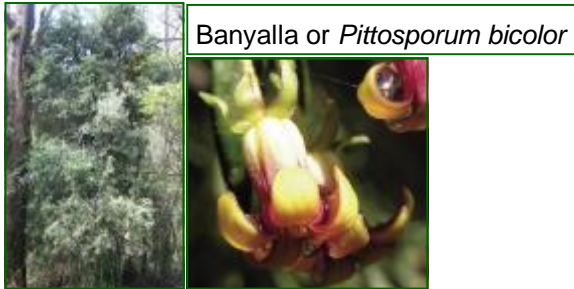
DRILL & FILL : Drill holes 2-3 cm deep and about 5 cm apart, at the base of the trunk. Fill the hole immediately with an undiluted glyphosate based product. This technique should be used for plants greater than 80 mm in diameter. Best done in active growth stage which is late spring and mid autumn.

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Indigenous alternatives to plant...

Many alternatives indigenous to the Yarra Ranges region are available and would make great substitutes for Sweet Pittosporum.

Some alternatives include:



Banyalla or *Pittosporum bicolor*

Privet Mock-olive or *Notelaea ligustrina*



Southern Sassafras or *Atherosperma moschatum*

Useful websites

The following is a list of useful information resources:

- For a list of indigenous plant nurseries, see [Indigenous Plant Nurseries list](#).
- For a list of other weeds in Yarra Ranges, see [Environmental Weeds list](#).
- For a list of chemical/herbicide contractors, see [Contractor and supplier list](#).

WARNING IF USING CHEMICALS

If you are weeding, all chemical use must be done as per manufacturers' guidelines. Ensure that you wear protective clothing/eye wear at all times. Take care and protect yourself, your family, pets and the natural environment (waterways, indigenous plants, wildlife) from coming into contact with chemicals.

When purchasing your herbicide always ask for a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). Product suppliers are required to make these sheets available at the point of sale. If a sheet is not available, notify the product manufacturer and the state authority. For further information go to www.apvma.gov.au or call the Poisons Information Service on 13 11 26.

For information on State-listed noxious weeds contact the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) on 136 186. Remember, as a landowner you are required by State law to control and remove noxious weeds on your land.