

Montpellier Broom

Series: Environmental Weed Factsheet
Ranked 20 — Worst weed in Yarra Ranges



Common Name: Montpellier Broom

Botanical Name: *Genista monspessulana*

Origin: Southern Europe

Size: 2m~3m H, 1.5m~2m W

Flowers: August—November

Fruit: November—February

Status: Declared Noxious Weed

Best removal time: Before seeds form

How to dispose of 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...

This plant invades all areas except heavily shaded or swampy places. It is a vigorous plant that overtakes large areas, preventing indigenous vegetation from growing.

How it spreads...

Reproduction is by seed which is long-lived. It is spread by animals, humans, birds and water. It is commonly available at nurseries, markets and fetes. Buyer beware.

What it looks like...

Montpellier Broom is a dense upright evergreen shrub. It has woody ridged stems. The soft leaves are usually divided into 3 leaflets which are hairy on both surfaces. Yellow pea-type flowers appear in late-winter and spring. The seed pods are silky hairy all over. The seeds are highly poisonous and appear between spring and late summer.

How to remove it...



HAND: Small plants can easily be hand pulled when the soil is soft. It is best to try and remove the young plants before they begin to flower.



SPRAY: Where there is quite a large infestation, hand-pulling or the cut and paint method would not be appropriate. Montpellier Broom can be sprayed with a glyphosate-based product. Ensure not to overspray onto native vegetation.



CUT & PAINT: For larger plants, this method may be more practical. Be sure to paint the cut as quickly as possible to ensure the plant absorbs the poison.

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Indigenous alternatives to plant...

Many medium shrub alternatives exist that are indigenous to the Yarra Ranges region and would make great substitutes for the Montpellier Broom.

Some alternatives include:



Photos: Weed; Shire staff, Coral Jeffs, Marilyn Gray

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](#).
- For descriptions of the local plants and the weeds of the Shire of Yarra Ranges see www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/plants



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.