



St John's Wort

Local Priority Weed



Under the *NSW Biosecurity Act 2015*, all landholders have a "General Biosecurity Duty" to manage any "Biosecurity Risk" posed or likely to be posed by Priority Weeds. These weeds can impact on human health, the economy, the liveability of our City and the environment.

Impacts can include allergies and other health issues, costs of control, loss of tourism value, degradation of natural landscapes, parks and recreation facilities, reduction of useful agricultural land and loss of primary production, loss of biodiversity and water quality.

MANDATORY OUTCOME

The plant should be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.

SCIENTIFIC NAME

Hypericum perforatum
(Family: Hypericaceae)

HABIT

An erect branched perennial herb, with small light green to blue-green leaves.



Photo: BMCC



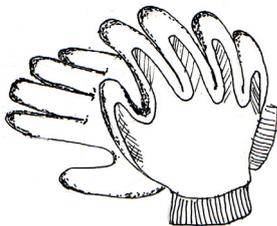
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DISPERSAL	Seed sticks to animals or vehicles, or is spread in contaminated soil. It can be introduced in contaminated hay or chaff. Each plant also spreads via underground runners. These can be chopped up and spread during cultivation. Seed is long-lived in the soil and each mature plant produces up to 30,000 seeds per season.
IMPACTS	Found in pasture and on road verges, generally in drier parts of the region. St John's Wort is more common on the tablelands and slopes, where it is a major weed of grazing land, and a severe weed of remnant grassy native vegetation.
CURRENT DISTRIBUTION	Upper to mid mountains.

CONTROL

Smaller plants can be hand-dug, taking care to remove all of the rhizomes (underground stems), and dispose of them carefully. Spot spraying with a selective herbicide is also effective.



Hand Removal



Spot Spray

Control illustrations by Anne Carey