



## DESCRIPTION

Woolly nightshade is a fast-growing, short-lived shrub or tree, which can grow up to 10 metres tall. Its small purple flowers are produced year-round, and develop into marble sized green/yellow bird-dispersed fruit.

## VALUES AT RISK:

Impacts indigenous biodiversity values. Woolly Nightshade is very free seeding with the seeds mainly being spread by birds. The plant matures quickly and forms dense, often pure stands that restrict the regeneration rate of native species.

Woolly nightshade is moderately toxic to humans and livestock; the hairs from the leaves can irritate skin, eyes, nose and throat on contact.

## STRATEGY RULE:

There is no rule requiring you to destroy woolly nightshade. Any control is voluntary.

**All pest plants are banned from being sold, propagated or distributed.**

## HOW TO DESTROY WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE:

Hand pull young plants or seedlings.

Cut down mature trees.

Use herbicides such as glysophate, metsulfuron (eg *Escort*, *Meturon* or *Zeal*) or picloram gel (eg *Vigilant*).

### Guidance on the use of glyphosate

- Apply glyphosate to actively growing plants.
- If broadcast spraying – mix 9 L of glyphosate in 50 - 100 L of water per hectare.
- If using a handgun – mix 750 ml of glyphosate with 100 L of water.
- If using a knapsack – mix 75 ml of glyphosate with 10 L of water.
- Add a penetrant, (eg organo silicone such as Boost or Pulse) to increase the effectiveness of the spray.
- Spray plant foliage and stems from all sides to give complete and uniform coverage.
- Follow mixing instructions carefully as concentrations of glyphosate vary in

the different formulations of this herbicide.

- This product must be under the control of an approved handler when applied onto or into water. Records of use must be kept when applied onto or into water.

### Guidance for using metsulfuron (eg *Escort*, *Meturon* or *Zeal*)

- Metsulfuron is effective on woolly nightshade all year round.
- If applying aerially – mix 170 gm of metsulfuron, plus 500 ml of a penetrant (such as Pulse or Boost), per 100 - 400 L of water, per hectare.
- If using a handgun – mix 20 gm of metsulfuron, plus 100 ml of a penetrant (such as Pulse or Boost), per 100 L of water.
- If using a knapsack – mix 5 gm of metsulfuron, plus 10 ml of a penetrant (such as Pulse or Boost), per 10 L of water.
- Spray plant foliage and stem from all sides to give complete and uniform coverage.
- If using a stump treatment, cut the woolly nightshade and then apply an metsulfuron mix of 5 gm of metsulfuron per litre of water.
- These products must be under the care of an approved handler when used in a wide dispersive manner, or applied by a commercial contractor.

### Guidance on picloram gel (eg *Vigilant*)

- Best results for controlling woolly nightshade with picloram are achieved during fine weather at any time of the year. Do not use if rain is likely to fall within 12 hours of application.
- On small plants, cut stem and paste stump with a 3 - 5 mm layer of gel to the cut surface.
- On trees, chainsaw the tree down and put vertical slashes into the side of the stump, and apply gel to all open wounded areas of the stump.
- This product must be under the care of an approved handler if the substance is used by a commercial contractor or applied directly onto or into water.
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The Taranaki Regional Council accepts no responsibility for any error or omission in these pages, nor for the use or misuse of any herbicide product. Users must observe safe practice guidelines and any directions on the product label. If in doubt, contact the product supplier for advice

For further advice or information about pest plant management contact:

**TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Pest Plant Management Section  
Private Bag 713, Stratford

Ph: 06 765 7127 or 0800 736 222

Fax: 06 765 5097 [www.trc.govt.nz](http://www.trc.govt.nz)