



Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*)



Common pampas (*Cortaderia selloana*)



Wild ginger

This information sheet explains the requirements of a Notice of Direction issued under section 122 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

What is a Notice of Direction?

A Notice of Direction is a formal legal document which requires you to destroy certain pest plants on your property.

A Notice of Direction is the first step to ensure pest plants are controlled on all properties within the region.

The Taranaki Regional Council issues around 400 notices each year which outline the landowner's responsibility to control pest plants and sets the date the pest plants must be destroyed by. Almost all notices are complied with without further action being taken.

There is no fine or other costs associated with the issue of a Notice of Direction.

Why have I been issued a Notice of Direction?

A Council Biosecurity Officer has inspected your property and found pest plant species that you are required to control under the *Pest Management Strategy for Taranaki: Plants*.

The Strategy sets out rules for various pest plant species. The rule(s) for the species identified on your property will be attached to the Notice of Direction.

During inspections, photos and GPS locations of plants are taken to ensure areas can be rechecked.

What do I need to do?

You must destroy all pest plants on your property that are listed on the Notice of Direction. Destroy means to kill or remove, so mowing or cutting that allows the plant to regrow, is not acceptable.

Your options include doing the work yourself (control options are provided with the notice) or engaging a contractor to do the work.

If you have any questions please contact the Council Officer who signed the notice.

Follow up inspection

When you notify the Council that the control work has been completed, or if the Notice of Direction expires, a Biosecurity Officer will recheck your property.

If all pest plants have been destroyed, the Officer will issue an Inspection Notice advising that the Notice of Direction has been complied with and that no further action will be taken.

What happens if I don't comply?

Failure to comply with a Notice of Direction is an offence under the Biosecurity Act 1993 and may result in further action being taken, including:

- Charging for re-inspection costs.
- Default Control. The Taranaki Regional Council carries out pest plant control on the property and invoices the occupier for all costs involved.
- Prosecution under Section 154 (R) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.
- All of the above.

Notices of Direction

Notices are issued to ensure landowners undertake pest control to stop the spread of pests to neighbouring properties.

There are individual rules requiring the control of each species. Most notices are issued for:

Pampas	Ragwort
Gorse	Wild ginger
Old man's beard	Broom
Giant gunnera	Giant buttercup

For further advice or information contact:

TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL

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