

WEED FILE: Cape Ivy

ISSUED: JANUARY 2023



Senecio angulatus

DESCRIPTION

This hairless scrambling perennial weed is similar to German Ivy (*Delairea odorata* - formerly *Senecio mikanoides*), but its leaves are thicker and less delicate than German Ivy.

Cape Ivy often forms a dense tangled vine or shrub, climbing as much as 5 metres.

The flowers are yellow and open in clusters of 4-50 flowerheads at the top of the stems. The florets can be 6-11mm long, with the disc being a yellow-orange colour.

The fleshy, leathery leaves are on a leaf stalk of about the same length and have 1-3 coarse serrations on each side but get smaller and less serrated the higher up the plant.

If not climbing Cape Ivy forms a dense mat that can smother pasture and prevent the establishment of seedling plants and natives.

HABITAT

Cape Ivy is found in drier more open sites, often coastal or rocky areas, the edge of the bush other waste areas and home gardens.

DISTRIBUTION

Seeds are easily spread by the wind and both seed fragments and seeds get spread with moved or dumped soil or vegetation.

IMPORTANT

Regardless of which control method you use, Cape Ivy is best controlled when flowering but before the seeds are produced. When spraying it is better if you can cut the stems below waist height and then spray the actively growing plants (during spring and summer).

MANUAL REMOVAL

Small plants can be hand-pulled but you can dig out all year round. Dispose of vegetation by burning, burying it deeply, or at a refuse transfer station

HERBICIDE CONTROL

Stump Swabbing

Cut the stem close to the ground and remove the cut foliage and stems and dispose of as above. The fresh-cut stump must be liberally swabbed with one of the following:

- **MSF600** at 5g/L of water.
- **Glyphosate 360** at 100ml/L water.
- **Glyphosate 540** at 67ml/L water
- **Granny** at 45g/L water.

Cut'n'Paste

Apply 2-4mm gel to the freshly cut stem

- **MetGel, Bamboo Buster or Glimax Professional**

Spraying

- **MSF600** at 2g/10 litres of water. Not grass friendly.
- **Glyphosate 360** at 10ml/L, **Glyphosate 540** at 6.7ml/L or, **Granny** at 4.5g/L.

These will kill pasture.

- **GrassMate** at 60ml/10L
- **2,4-D 720 Amine** 4g/L + **Dicamba 500SL** 3ml/L water.
- **Dicamba 500SL** 3ml/L water

These are pasture friendly but will kill clover.

In all cases when spraying add **SuperWetter** at 10ml per 10 litres of water.