

# Help stop the spread... \*\*Plant natives instead\*\*

The impact of environmental weeds is a major issue throughout Queensland, costing millions of dollars in control costs, lost agricultural production and environmental damage each year. To reduce the impact on our natural environment, Bundaberg Regional Council is adopting a plant swap program to remove some of these unwanted weeds from our urban areas.

## What are we doing?

The program will see registered home owners issued with a voucher for each of the targeted environmental plants removed from their garden, which can then be exchanged at Bundaberg & District Landcare Association for a replacement native plant species. Plants targeted for removal will be Broad-leaved pepper tree, Brazilian cherry, Easter cassia, Yellow bells, Asparagus fern, Black-eyed susan, Captain cook tree, Guava, Leucaena, Mother-of-millions and Ochna.

Home owners interested in registering for the plant swap program should contact Bundaberg Regional Council to arrange an inspection and the identification of targeted environmental weeds on their property.

Vouchers will only be issued once the identified tree has been removed and the property has been inspected by one of Council's Land Protection Officers.

#### Why are we doing this?

Environmental weeds are plant species which currently are, or have the potential to, negatively impact our natural environment by destroying habitat and outcompeting native species. Some of the worst environmental weeds are in fact garden escapees introduced into the environment by illegal dumping of garden waste and seed spread by birds and animals.

# Which native plants will be offered as replacements?

- Lilly Pilly Syzygium
- Tulipwood Harpullia perndula
- Tuckeroo Cupaniopsis anacardiodes
- Weeping Lilly Pilly Waterhousia floribunda
- Grevillia Grevillia
- Grey Myrtle/Cinnamon Myrtle Backhousia myrtifolia
- Ivory Curl Tree Buckinghamia celsissima
- Bottlebrush Callistemon
- Crows Ash/Australian Teak Flindersia australis

#### Further information

Council's Land Protection Officers are happy to provide further information and assistance by phoning the Call Centre on 1300 883 699.





# What species are we targeting?



Broad-leaved pepper Schinus terebinthifolius



Senna pendula var. glabrata



**Brazillian Cherry** Eugenia uniflora



Yellow Bells Tecoma stans



Leucaena leucocephala



Yellow Guava Psidium guajava



Mother-of-millions Bryophyllum delagoense



Asparagus Fern (both climbing and basket asparagus ferns)



Captain Cook Tree Cascabela thevetia



Ochna Ochna serrulata



Black-eyed Susan Thunbergia alata

# What else is being done to stop the spread?

Bundaberg Regional Council has begun a program to remove environmental weeds from Council's natural areas with initial work being undertaken in Baldwin Swamp, Russo Nature Park and Barolin Nature Reserve targeting Broad-leaved pepper tree, Brazilian cherry, Duranta, Easter Cassia and several other invasive weeds. It is hoped that over time these natural areas can be returned to their former glory, improving biodiversity and reducing the economic, social and environmental impact which environmental weeds can cause. By working together Council, Bundaberg Landcare and the community can contribute to controlling and reducing these invasive species and their effect on our wonderful natural environment.





# Help stop the spread... plant natives instead

# What species are we targeting?

Legend:



Flowering



Cut stump and paint



Hand removal



Apply herbicide





Hand pull seedings

Fruiting



Hand pull small plants



Remove roots



Dig out larger plants



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Control









Locally declared pest in the Bundaberg region – Local Law No.3

Other common names include Surinam cherry, Florida cherry, Pitanga, Barbados Cherry

The Brazilian Cherry is a native shrub of South America. Growing rapidly to 8m, this plant has dense spreading foliage that outcompetes native plants for light, water, space and nutrients.

- Fruit is ribbed into eight segments
- Orange-red in colour when ripe

#### Leaves and flowers

- Dark green glossy leaves when mature
- Leaves are small, thin and aromatic
- Small scented white flowers with four petals



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Broad-leaved pepper tree Schinus terebinthifolius Listed as "Restricted Invasive Plant" under Biosecurity Act 2014

Other common names include: Brazilian holly, Brazilian pepper, Christmas berry

The Broad Leaved Pepper Tree is native to South America and was originally introduced as an ornamental shrub. It can grow up to 7m high and 10m wide due to its spreading branches. It is a serious threat to native vegetation, rapidly colonising disturbed bushland, out competing and replacing native grasses. This plant can play host to mango black spot and witches broom disease which affect citrus plants.

- · Glossy round fruit approximately 6mm in diameter
- · Small and fleshy
- · Bright red in colour when ripe
- Only female trees bear fruit

## Leaves and flowers

- Leaves consist of 5 9 dark green leaflets
- Leaves have a pepper smell when crushed
- · Small whitish flowers on branch ends



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Control

#### Easter Cassia Senna pendula

Locally declared pest in the Bundaberg region – Local Law No.3

Other common names include: Cassia, Climbing Cassia, Senna, Winter Senna

Native to South America, this is a woody multi-branched shrub growing to 2 – 4m in height. A prolific seeder, the shrub produces abundant cylindrical seed pods containing hundreds of seeds that germinate readily and then smother native vegetation.

- Occurs after flowering
- Cylindrical pods 10 20 cm long
- · Mature pods are brown in colour

#### Leaves and flowers

- Clusters of bright yellow 5 petalled flowers at branch tips
- 3 to 6 pairs of leaflets with rounded tips
- Flowers are produced around Easter time



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#### Yellow Bells Tecoma stans

#### Listed as "Restricted Invasive Plant" under Biosecurity Act 2014

Other common names include: Tecoma, Yellow Tecoma, Yellow Trumpet Flower

Native to tropical America, this densely branched small tree grows to 8m high. Yellow Bells can produce dense stands that outcompete native vegetation in turn reducing available habitat for native animals.

#### Fruit

- Appear as long bean like pods that are around 10 – 30cm long
- Pods are green and ripen to brown and appear in clusters at ends of branches
- Seeds are winged, flat and oblong (7 – 8mm long and 4mm wide)

#### Leaves and flowers

- Leaves are arranged in pairs
- Bright yellow flowers with 5 petals
- Flowers are tubular in shape
- Flowers are 3 5cm long and form clusters at the end of branches



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#### Leucaena Leucaena leucocephala

#### Locally declared pest in the Bundaberg region - Local Law No.3

Other common names include: Coffee Bush, Cow Tamarind, Horse Tamarind, Jumbie Bean

This small tree grows to 6m tall and is native to Central and South America. Leucaena can form dense thickets crowding out native vegetation and making it difficult for wildlife to travel through these areas.

#### Fruit

- Fruit are flattened pods up to 15cm long forming dense clusters
- Each pod contains approximately 20 flat glossy brown seeds that scatter when ripe
- · Seeds all year round

#### Leaves and flowers

- Flowers are creamy-yellow
- Flowers grow on short stalks about 5cm long
- · Leaves are approximately 25cm long

## The GBO and you

The Biosecurity Act 2014 requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive plants and animals under their control. This is called a general biosecurity obligation (GBO). If you know you have the weeds listed here then ensure that you do not give them away, sell them or release them into the environment without a permit.

#### Plant us instead

#### **Trees**

#### Crows Ash/Australian Teak

#### Flindersia australis

Hardy tree bearing masses of small white flowers

#### **Dwarf Water Gum**

#### Syzgium francisii 'Little Gem'

- Dense foliage
- Pink new growth that matures through yellow gold to mid green providing an excellent foliage contrast
- Creates a great hedge and screen

#### **Ivory Curl Tree**

#### Buckinghamia celsissima

• Bears masses of white to cream flowers

Glossy leaves

# Grey Myrtle or Cinnamon Myrtle

#### Backhousia myrtifolia

- Grows to 3 7m in height and 4m in width
- Clusters of cream coloured flowers
- Bird attracting

#### Tuckeroo

#### Cupaniopsis anacardiodes

- Fast growing
- Glossy large green leaves
- Orange yellow fleshy fruits

#### **Lilly Pillies**

#### Syzgium austral cultivars

- Creates a great hedge and screen
- Glossy green foliage, fluffy white flowers and small colourful berries

#### Small shrubs

## Cascade Lilly Pilly

#### Syzgium 'Cascade'

- Forms a thick screen 3 5 m in height
- Large pink powder puff flowers
- Whitish pink berries

#### **Further information**

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