

Elephantopus mollis (Tobacco weed)

Description: Tobacco weed is a slender fast-growing herb up to 1.5m with rough/hairy oblong/oval leaves bunching at the base. Small white flowers surrounded by three bracts are held in clusters at the end of upright stems. Leaves and stems are resinous and can irritate the skin. Tobacco weed may flower and seed any time of year but generally occurs in May after the wet season

Distribution: Widespread in coastal districts particularly along roadsides, pastures and areas of disturbance.

Impacts: Tobacco weed can rapidly occupy disturbed and heavily grazed areas. Dense masses of seedlings smother grass. Tobacco weed prefers forest margins and road verges and can be highly competitive in production areas.

Key projects: Annual treatments are conducted along roadsides to reduce to spread.

Biosecurity obligations and legal requirements

Obligations relating to restricted matter

- Under the Act tobacco weed must not be given away, sold, or released into the environment. Penalties apply.
- Under the Regulation tobacco weed may be disposed of by:
- Deep burial,
- Transporting to a waste facility securely (contact DSC 07 4099 9444),
- Sealing the matter in plastic and leaving the matter in the sun until any vegetative material being disposed has decomposed.

General Biosecurity Obligation

The Act requires everyone to take all reasonable and practical measures to minimise the biosecurity risks associated with tobacco weed under their control.

In the prevention zone

Contact DSC to report any suspect plants on 07 4099 9444.

Wherever practical ensure agricultural and raw materials are sourced from a reliable supplier and are from a Tobacco weed free area.

In the asset protection zone

Spell any stock in a holding paddock for at least 7 days before moving from known infestation areas.

Property tracks/roads and boundaries should be treated annually to prevent spread to adjoining paddocks and properties.

Manage risk of spread from your property and protect priority assets using best practice methods to control infestations where practical to do so.

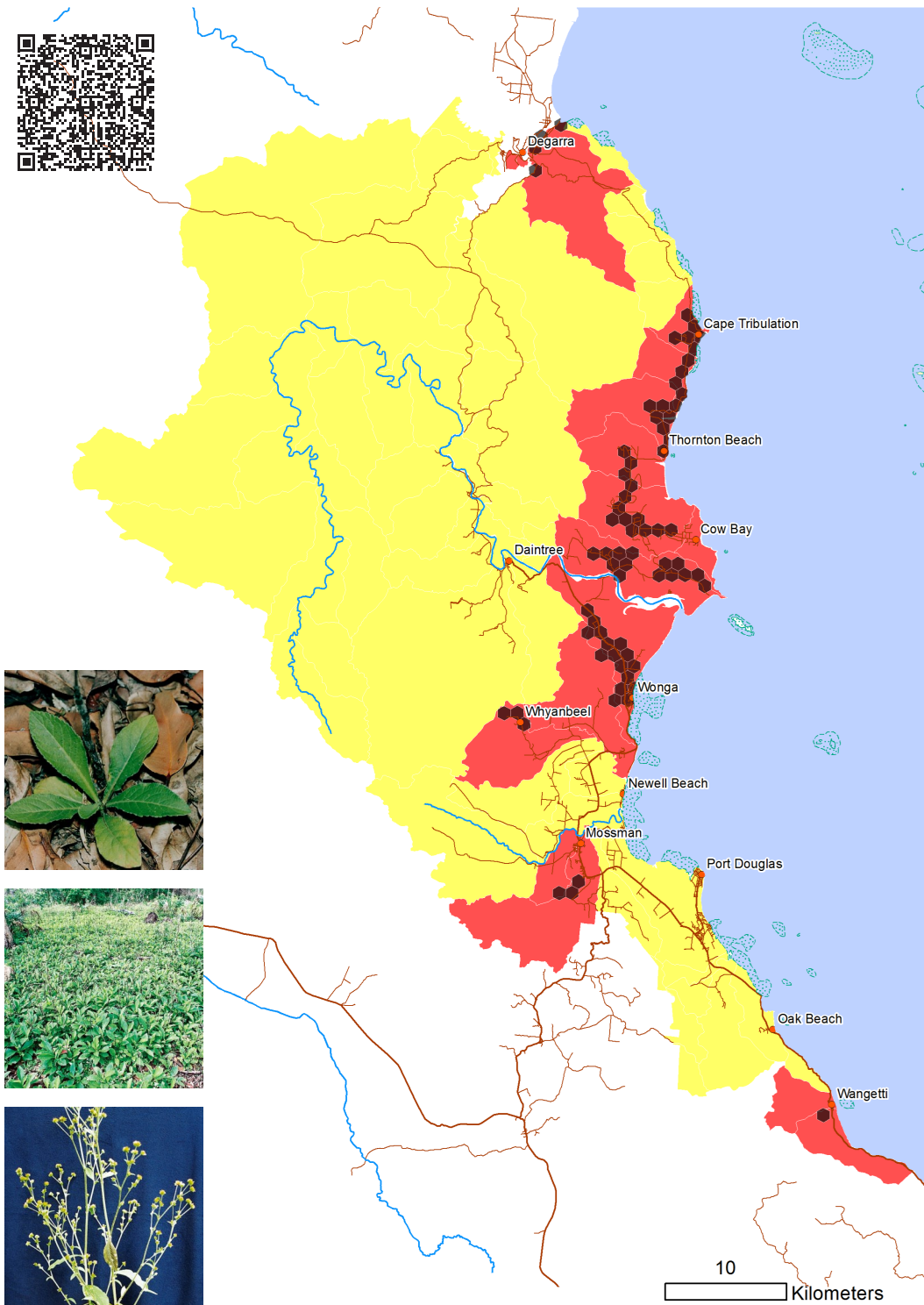
You are responsible to ensure materials or products leaving your property are free from tobacco weed seed or plant material.

For more information on using this biosecurity action plan fact sheet, and further information on control tools, refer to the Douglas Shire Biosecurity Management Plan available at douglas.qld.gov.au and customer service centres.



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Management objectives and actions



Biosecurity Act
Restricted matter category

3
Do not distribute

Control



Spread



Flowering	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Seeding	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Spray	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Manual	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Best time	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec

Key

- Peak ●
- First/last flush ●
- Occasional ●
- Optimal ●
- Good ●
- Marginal ●