

Management strategies

How to treat Paterson's curse

Paterson's curse, also known as salvation Jane, uses nutrients from the soil, reducing the growth of pasture and can be poisonous to livestock if grazed for extended periods.

Treating small patches or limited infestations

Where labour is not a limiting factor, manual removal of the plant can be a highly effective method of control. Ensure that removal occurs before flowering, as once the seeds are viable they can grow even after the plant has been removed from the ground. It is advisable to burn any pulled plants to reduce the chance of regrowth.

Vigilant II can also be used to apply to at least 50% of the leaves in the rosette stage, wiping the applicator along the middle of each leaf.

For best results

- An integrated approach to managing Paterson's curse using a variety of different control methods is the best way to prevent seed from setting in and reduce the weed population in the long term.
- Ensure you spray the entire leaf area of the plant, with thorough coverage of the crown (where the stems meet) all the way to the tips. Treat when Paterson's curse is actively growing. This will ensure maximum uptake of the chemical into the root system.

Treatment tips

- Slashing as a short-term solution can help delay the onset of flowering. It will not kill the plant, merely damage it and force it to regrow the removed section.
- When moving livestock from an infested paddock, ensure that they are quarantined for at least seven days as the seeds can pass through livestock and remain viable.



Paterson's curse

(Echium plantagineum)



Stinger[®]
HERBICIDE



Paterson's curse (*Echium plantagineum*)

Description

Paterson's curse typically grows to around 60–150 cm in height, often featuring multiple branched stems arising from the plant base. The stems themselves are covered in course hairs, as are the thinner leaves protruding from the stem. The flowers on Paterson's curse are predominantly purple, 2–3 cm long and shaped like trumpets with two thin stamens protruding from the end of the flower tube.



Timing

Product	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	✓	✓	🌀	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	🌀	🌀	🌀	✓
Vigilant® II Herbicide	🌀	🌀	🌀	🌀	🌀	🌀	🌀	🌀	🌀	✓	✓	🌀

KEY:

- ✓ Best time to spray/treat
- 🌀 Can spray/treat if conditions are suitable
- ✗ Do not spray/treat

Herbicides for control of Paterson's curse

Product [#]	Method of application	Rate [†]	State
Tordon® 75-D Herbicide	Foliar spray	150 mL/100 L of water	NSW, Qld, Vic, WA
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Foliar spray	250 mL/100 L of water	All
Vigilant® II Herbicide	Leaf wiping	Neat. 50% leaf area	All

[#] Note: Preferred product option in bold. [†] Consult label for details of growth stage and use, especially where range of rates is given.



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