

Management strategies

How to treat

The most cost-effective and practical control technique depends on the scale of the infestation and topography of infested land.

Do not clear in one year more than you will be able to manage in the follow-up program.

1. Treating isolated patches and limited infestations

Patches of St John's wort are best treated by spot spraying with Grazon Extra. Trials undertaken by NSW Agriculture from 1990 to 1994 have shown that products containing picloram and triclopyr give superior control of St John's wort for up to four years after application.

2. Treating extensive infestations on arable land

On arable land, St John's wort can be controlled by cultivation and cropping to remove it and reduce the seed reserves before sowing a perennial pasture. For long-term control, once the pasture is well established, graze heavily and spot spray any reinfesting St John's wort with Grazon Extra.

3. Treating extensive infestations on hill country

In hill country, it is not economically feasible to eliminate St John's wort. In most cases one must learn to live with some wort and therefore livestock and pasture management should be geared to minimise the impact of the weed. Boom application of Grazon Extra or Starane Advanced along fencelines will help to prevent spread to adjacent paddocks.

For best results

For best results using Grazon Extra, apply high-volume hand spraying at 3000 L/ha to thoroughly wet the foliage of a dense infestation; lower spray volumes (2000 L/ha) will be effective on moderate to sparse infestations. Boom spraying with 200–250 L of water/ha is also effective and aerial application via helicopter is effective for hillside spraying.

Ensure the plant is actively growing (15–50 cm tall), and both the upper-flower canopy and sub-canopy lying prostrate are wet.

Focus on spraying open areas where pasture productivity can be improved by the removal of St John's wort without damaging remnant vegetation.

Treatment tips

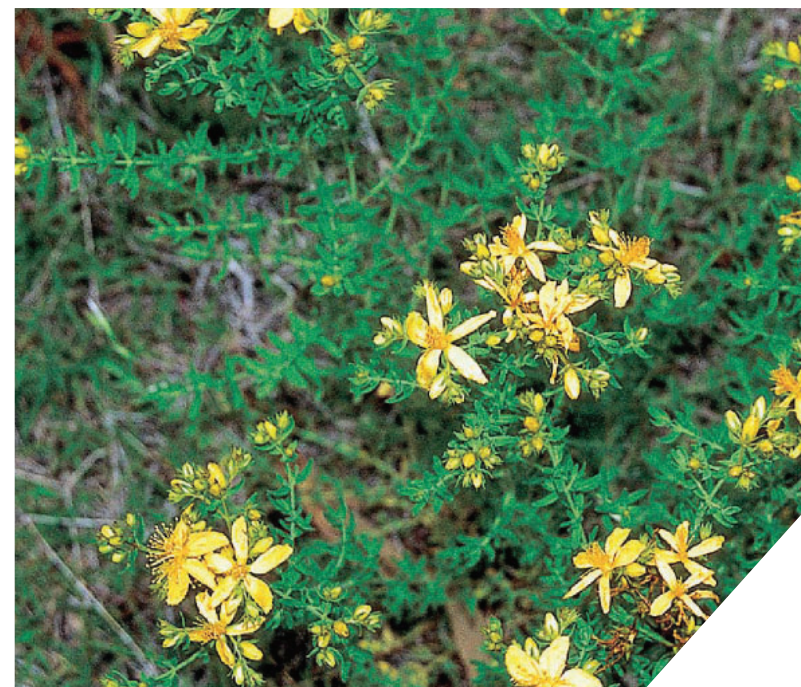
Avoid treating St John's wort when:

- The flowers have turned brown.
- Insects have eaten most of the leafy material.
- The plant is diseased or stressed.
- There is physical damage from vehicles.
- There is herbicide damage from previous applications.



St John's wort

(*Hypericum perforatum*)



Grazon® Extra
HERBICIDE



St John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)

Description

St John's wort is a perennial herb that can grow up to 1 m tall. It has stemless small leaves dotted with clear oil glands that have a perforated appearance when held to light. Stems are reddish in colour. Flowers have five yellow petals, three bunches of many stamens.

St John's wort is widespread in pastures, water catchment reserves, forests and national parks and can cause photosensitisation in livestock. It infests large areas of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia and is a serious weed on tablelands and slopes areas as it is most suited to areas receiving more than 600 mm annual rainfall at altitudes of 600 m to 1500 m.

Timing

Spot spraying is best carried out when St John's wort is in flower (Nov–Jan) because it can be easily seen then and is at its most sensitive period to herbicides. Spraying should begin six to eight weeks after substantial rain and when St John's wort reaches the 50% yellow bud – 50% open flower stage.

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

KEY:

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

Herbicides for control of St John's wort

Product*	Method of application	Rate†	State
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Foliar spray	500 mL/100 L of water	All
Hotshot® Herbicide	Foliar spray	700 mL/100 L of water	All
Starane® Advanced Herbicide	Foliar spray	300 mL/100 L of water	All
Trezac® Arylex® active Herbicide	Foliar spray	200 mL + 300 mL Starane® Advanced/100 L of water	All
Tordon® 75-D Herbicide	Foliar spray	500 mL/100 L of water	Qld, ACT, NSW, SA, Vic, WA
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Boom application	2 to 4 L/ha	ACT, NSW
Starane® Advanced Herbicide	Boom application	1.8 L/ha (200 L water/ha)	All
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Controlled droplet application	Apply undiluted	All
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Gas gun application	500 mL/10 L of water	ACT, NSW, Tas, Vic
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Aerial (helicopter only)	4 L/ha	ACT, NSW

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



For more information call toll free **1800 899 147** or visit us at **www.woodyweedspecialists.com.au**

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