

Management strategies

How to treat

Khaki weed is a prolific seeder, with seed banks remaining viable for many years. The burrs from Khaki weed are easily spread by attaching to animals, people and machinery, and can create infestations that spread over large areas, forming dense mats that prevent the growth of other plants or pasture.

1. Treating small patches or limited infestations

Where the infestation is small, khaki weed can be physically removed; however, you must ensure that you remove the entire taproot and dispose of the plant by burning to prevent regrowth. It's best to use a plant removal tool or a fork instead of your hands, as big enough pieces of the root system that are left in the soil will re-grow. Cultivation (turning over the soil to expose the roots of the plant) can be effective as long as it is deep enough to prevent the roots from re-growing.

2. Treating more extensive infestations

Due to its extensive taproot and prostrate growth habit, khaki weed cannot be controlled through slashing, though very close mowing may delay seed set. For more extensive infestations we recommend the use of Tordon 75-D as a foliar spray at a mix rate of 650 mL per 100 L of water (6.5 mL 1 L of water).

For best results

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. For best results, ensure you treat when the plant is actively growing. This will ensure maximum uptake of the herbicide and translocation into the root system.

Treatment tips

- Avoid treating if the plant is damaged or under stress due to unfavourable growing conditions.



Khaki weed

(Alternanthera pungens)



Tordon[®] 75-D
HERBICIDE



Khaki weed (*Alternanthera pungens*)

Description

Khaki weed is a creeping herb. The root system is perennial but the top growth is annual. The plant has multiple stems up to 60 cm long. These are reddish in colour and feature soft silky hairs. The leaves are round to oval in shape, are usually green with red-purple veins, and grow in pairs along the length of the stem. One of the leaves is significantly larger than its partner and can grow 5–45 mm in length.

The flowers typically grow in small inconspicuous clusters and are white in colour. The flowers are surrounded by tiny bracts that after fertilisation form small seed-filled prickly burrs that are easily snagged on fur or clothing and footwear and even vehicle and machinery tyres and carried to other areas.



Timing

Product	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Tordon 75-D® Herbicide	🌀	🌀	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	🌀	✗	✗	✗	✗

KEY:

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

Herbicides for control of khaki weed

Product [#]	Method of application	Rate [†]	State
Tordon® 75-D Herbicide	Foliar spray	650 mL/100 L of water	NSW, Qld, SA, Vic, WA

[#] 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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