

# Management strategies

## How to treat

### **Parkinsonia is a weed of national significance.**

Approximately 90% of parkinsonia seed is spread by water, particularly during floods. Other seeds are spread by birds and animals (both domestic and feral), and from contaminated mud sticking to machinery, animals and footwear. Implementing a 3 Cycle Plan, that is Treat, Follow-up and Check infestations of parkinsonia, is very important in management of the weed.

### **1. Treating isolated patches and limited infestations**

- Foliar spray with Grazon Extra is a very effective control method for control of seedlings up to 1.5 m tall. Spray leaf and stems to point of run-off.
- A second option is basal bark spraying using Access on stems up to 5 cm diameter, carefully spray completely around base of plant to a height of 30 cm above ground level.
- Cut stump treatment using Access is another option. Cut stems off horizontally as close to the ground as possible. Immediately spray the cut surface.
- ThinLine application with Access + Biosafe on stems up to 5 cm in diameter, treating around the base of the plant to a height of 5 cm above ground level.

### **2. Treating extensive infestations**

Initial clearing by stickraking, blade ploughing or ripping can be effective, although it is restricted to reasonably level areas away from watercourses. Clearing will hasten seed germination, necessitating follow-up control

either mechanically or with herbicides, e.g. aerial application of Grazon Extra on new seedling germinations, up to 1–2 m tall, 12–24 months old.

### **For best results**

If treating parkinsonia under 2 m tall with a foliar spray, use Grazon Extra at 350 mL/100 L of water with Uptake Spraying Oil @ 500 mL/100 L of water. Avoid spraying under dry conditions when plants are stressed or bearing pods. Thoroughly wet foliage and stems.

If stems are less than 5 cm in basal diameter use Access as a basal bark or ThinLine application. Because parkinsonia infested areas are often subject to flooding, care is needed to ensure mud and flood debris does not prevent spray penetration to the bark. The trunk may need to be cleared before spraying.

### **Treatment tips**

Establishing improved pasture will aid in managing parkinsonia by competition.

Fire will destroy seedlings if sufficient fuel load is present, but mature plants will usually survive. Do not treat plants with Access if plants still have charcoal/ash covering the stems.



## Parkinsonia

(*Parkinsonia aculeata*)



**Access<sup>®</sup>**  
HERBICIDE



# Parkinsonia (*Parkinsonia aculeata*)

## Description

Parkinsonia emerges as a single thorny stem and matures into a thorny tree with numerous branches and slender drooping green stems. It grows to a height of 6 m and can form dense thickets. Leaves are very thin flattened rachises up to 30 cm long with tiny oblong leaflets in two rows along their length. Sharp thorns 7–12 mm long are present at the leaf nodes.

Flowers are predominantly yellow but one petal either has orange spots or is completely orange. There are eight to 12 flowers on each inflorescence. The leathery seedpods are light brown when mature. Pods are 5–11 cm long, each containing two to four seeds. The seedfeeding beetle, *Penthobruchus germani*, was released in 1995 and has reduced the amount of viable seed being spread.



## Timing

Plants should be actively growing and preferably flowering. Field experience has shown that good soil moisture is essential for effective control.

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

### KEY:

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

## Herbicides for control of parkinsonia

Product <sup>#</sup>	Method of application	Rate <sup>†</sup>	State
<b>Access® Herbicide</b>	Basal bark and Cut stump	1:60 with diesel or Biosafe§	All
Access® Herbicide	ThinLine basal bark	1:9 with diesel or Biosafe§	All
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Aerial (helicopter only)	3 L/ha + Uptake® Spraying Oil 1 L/ha	Qld, NT
Grazon® Extra Herbicide	Foliar spray	350 mL/100 L of water + Uptake	All
Vigilant® II Herbicide	Cut stump	Apply neat: 3–5 mm layer	All

<sup>#</sup> Note: Preferred product option in bold. <sup>†</sup> Consult label for details of growth stage and use, especially where range of rates is given. § Biosafe – trademark used under licence, Victorian Chemical Co Pty Ltd.



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