

Crofton Weed

What is it?

Crofton Weed is an introduced plant originating from the Americas. It is a perennial shrub growing to 1-1.5 metres in height.

Crofton Weed can be found along the shaded banks of rivers and creeks, and around drains. The plant produces numerous seeds that are dispersed by wind and water. Infestations can become quite large and dense.

Crofton Weed has been linked to the death of horses. It causes an acute pulmonary consolidation of the lungs of the animals, so care needs to be exercised by denying horses access to infested areas.

What does it look like?

Its stems are covered in purplish hairs; leaves are rhomboidal, with blades almost as broad as long. Flower heads are clustered at the end of stems and are white in color. The plant flowers in late summer and autumn.

Distribution

Infestations occur all along the NSW Coastline. Crofton Weed can sometimes be confused with *A. riparium* or Mistflower.

Control Measures

Physical control:

If infestations are small and isolated, physical removal can be quite successful. Note: as with any hand removal of weeds, gloves should be worn to avoid possible allergic reaction or accidental poisoning.

Crofton Weed

Ageritina adenophora

A Category W2 or W3 Noxious plant. Under the Noxious Weed Act 1993, plants must be contained and numbers reduced.



Herbicide control:

There are several herbicides registered for the control of Crofton Weed. The selection depends on the locality, and other species that may be present. Products such as *Grazon DS*, *Tordon 75 D*, and various *Glyphosate* based herbicides are effective. Application rates and other information will be on the product label.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this document is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (January 2004). Users are reminded of the need to ensure that any product purchased for the control of Crofton Weed is registered for that purpose. The author cannot take responsibility for any changes, or modifications, that are made to product registration or requirements that may occur after January 2004.

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