

Blue Heliotrope

What is it?

Introduced from South America many years ago, Blue Heliotrope is becoming a serious weed of pastures and roadsides.

What does it look like?

A perennial plant growing to 30 cm high, leaves are oblong with a spear-shaped tip, 2 to 8 cm long with a wavy edge.

Flowers grow in dense clusters, petals are lilac with a yellow inner-tube. Stems, leaves and flowers are covered in minute hairs, and the plant is rough to the touch.

Single plants can cover large areas effectively smothering other vegetation.

Control Measures

Physical control:
Difficult to control once established. It is recommended that young isolated plants be physically removed to prevent seeding and spreading.

Herbicide control:
There are several herbicides registered for control, the selection will depend on the situation that the weed is growing in. Contact your local pesticide supplier for the latest information and recommendations.

Biological control:
Biological control agents are being released in many areas, however the level of control that these may provide is unknown at this time. If insect damage is noted, contact your local Weeds Officer or NSW Agriculture office, as details of spread and effect are being monitored.

Blue Heliotrope

Heliotropium amplexicaule

A Category W 2 weed: under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993, the weed must be fully and continuously suppressed and destroyed.



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 Blue Heliotrope 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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