

# Mysore thorn

*Caesalpinia decapetala*

Mysore thorn is native to Japan, China, India and Malaysia. It is present in many countries around the world and is an invasive weed in New Zealand, the Dominican Republic, South Africa and Hawaii.

Mysore thorn is a vigorous growing plant capable of climbing and engulfing native vegetation, fences, sheds, bridges and other infrastructure.



## Distribution

Scattered infestations occur in some southern inland locations and along most of the Queensland coastline. In Northern NSW there are two major infestations at the head of catchments in the Dunoon area, as well as isolated outbreaks across the region.

## Description

Mysore thorn is a large evergreen shrub with thorns along the stem. The thorns are straight or hooked and aid in its ability to climb. These long spines can inflict serious injury to humans and animals, both native and domestic.

The plant forms dense thickets, restricting access of stock and machinery to vital areas such as water, pastures and roads.

The leaves are dark green on top and grow in 3-12 pairs of oblong leaflets.

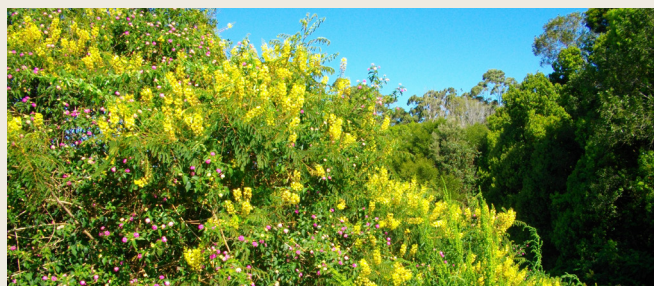
The flowers are a distinctive pale yellow, growing in racemes that protrude up to 50cm above the main plant, and have prickles at the base.

## Habitat

Mysore thorn prefers humid coastal conditions in sub-tropical to tropical climates. It grows in a variety of soil types and will tolerate annual rainfalls from 300-3,000mm. It will often grow in disturbed areas, roadsides, pastures, creek banks, native grasslands and along the edges of bushlands and forests.

## Reproduction and dispersal

Seeds are easily spread by water, and possibly rodents. The seed can remain viable in the soil for up to 10 years.





## Mysore thorn *Caesalpinia decapetala*



### Declaration

#### Regional priority weed objective: Containment

These weeds are widely distributed in some parts of the State. While broadscale elimination is not practicable, minimisation of the biosecurity risk posed by these weeds is reasonably practicable.

### Control

If you have seen, or think you have seen, Mysore thorn please contact Rous County Council on (02) 6623 3800 for a positive identification and advice on control.

#### Chemical control

**Vigilant II**® (active ingredients: Picloram 44.7 g/kg + Aminopyralid 4.47 g/L)

Undiluted.

Cut stump application. Apply a 3-5mm layer of gel for stems less than 20mm. Apply 5mm layer on stems above 20mm.

No withholding period.

**Brush-off**® (active ingredient: Metsulfuron-methyl 600g/kg)

10g per 100L of water.

Spray to thoroughly wet all foliage, but not to cause run-off. Apply to actively growing plants before flowering. Add wetting agent.

No withholding period.

#### Non-chemical control

Physical removal of small seedling plants.



(Photo source: Rous County Council.)

#### For further information contact:

Rous County Council  
02 6623 3800

[www.rous.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rous.nsw.gov.au)

These information sheets were originally prepared by Rous County Council © 2019

All information provided is done so in good faith, but on the basis that Rous County Council and its consultants are not liable for any damage or loss that may occur in relation to this information.

