

Chinese celtis

(*Celtis sinensis*)

Regional priority weed objective: Containment

Chinese celtis is a native of China, Japan and Korea and was introduced into Australia as an ornamental and shade tree. It is a major environmental weed in south-east Queensland, expanding rapidly over recent years into major infestations along riparian zones. Most established populations of Chinese celtis in the northern areas of NSW are in urban areas; in both private gardens and public areas. Significant but controllable infestations occur in bushland in and near Lismore, near Kyogle and the upper Richmond River catchment, as well as in the Tweed.



- Description:** A large tree, growing up to 20m tall, with a spreading, moderately dense crown. It has a smooth, mottled grey bark with alternate, In northern NSW it is deciduous or semi-deciduous in late winter and the dry early spring period.
- Leaves:** Leaves are elliptical and approximately 4-7cm long. In the upper half of the leaf the margins are finely serrated.
- Seed:** Chinese celtis produces thousands of fleshy fruits that are approximately 7-8mm in diameter. The fruits turn reddish brown to orange when ripe in autumn and early winter.
- Dispersal:** Seeds are spread by birds feeding on its fruit in autumn and early winter. This enhances dispersal throughout the disturbed, regenerating riparian zones. Chinese celtis has also been promoted and planted as a shade and street tree, which has assisted in its spread over the years. The tree fruits during the same period as Camphor laurel, and similar birds feed on both species.
- Habitat:** Although known to grow in a wide range of soils, it prefers moist areas. Current infestations are largely in riparian zones in areas originally supporting subtropical and dry rainforests. Infestations initially develop in disturbed areas of riparian vegetation and in previously cleared and regenerating riparian zones. Regenerating riparian areas, also infested with Camphor laurel and Privet, are widespread along the north coast of NSW.

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Declaration and control

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

Herbicide options

WARNING - ALWAYS READ THE LABEL

Users of agricultural or veterinary chemical products must always read the label and any permit, before using the product, and strictly comply with the directions on the label and the conditions of any permit. Users are not absolved from compliance with the directions on the label or the conditions of the permit by reason of any statement made or not made in this information. To view permits or product labels go to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority website www.apvma.gov.au. See [Using herbicides](#) for more information.

Chemical and concentration	Rate	Comments
Permit 9907 (expires 31/03/2020)		
Glyphosate 360g/L Roundup®	1 part glyphosate to 50 parts water.	Knapsack application. Withholding period: Nil. Herbicide group: M, Inhibitors of EPSP synthase. Resistance risk: Moderate.
	1 part glyphosate to 1.5 parts of water.	Cut stump / scrape stem application. Withholding period: Nil. Herbicide group: M, Inhibitors of EPSP synthase. Resistance risk: Moderate.
Fluroxypyr 333 g/L (Starane™ Advanced)	Rate: 2.1L per 100L of diesel.	Basal bark application for plants up to 2m high. Withholding period: 7 days. Herbicide group: I, Disruptors of plant cell growth (synthetic auxins). Resistance risk: Moderate.
Picloram 44.7 g/kg + Aminopyralid 4.47 g/L (Vigilant II®)	Rate: Undiluted.	Cut stump / stem injection application. Apply a 3-5mm layer of gel for stems less than 20mm. Apply 5mm layer on stems above 20mm. Withholding period: Nil. Herbicide group: I, Disruptors of plant cell growth (synthetic auxins). Resistance risk: Moderate.



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