

Blackberry: declared pest



Blackberries (*Rubus anglocandicans*, *R. fruticosus*, *R. laudatus*, *R. rugosus*, and *R. ulmifolius*) are declared pests in Western Australia (WA). This fact sheet describes the nature of the plant with links to requirements land owners/occupiers must adhere to, pest control methods and how to search, detect and report it.

Form: shrub — perennial

Status: present in WA

Native to Europe and adjacent areas. Blackberries have been prioritised at a national level as Weeds of National Significance (WoNS).

Appearance

Semi-deciduous scramblers to two metres high with canes up to seven metres long. Spread by seed, rooting of cane tips, and by suckers from lateral roots. The latter two means of spread result in large clumps over time. Fruit is eaten by birds and mammals (especially foxes) that may transport seeds some distance.

Stems: mostly arching, green, reddish or purple, ribbed lengthwise, with or without hairs. Plant covered with numerous prickles straight or curved, 3-12 millimetres long.

Leaves: usually comprise three or five leaflets with toothed margins, dark green on the upper surface and with many to no hairs underneath.

Flowers: to three centimetres wide with five white or pink petals. Flowers late spring to summer.

Fruit: globe-shaped, one to three centimetres across, initially green ripening through red to black, composed of numerous small juicy segments.

Seeds: pitted to three millimetres long.

Online weed identification training

Login or set up a new account on [DPIRDs online training site](#) to access:

- [a training course on how to identify early blackberry and report it.](#)

- [training material that you can use to teach community groups how to identify early blackberry.](#)

Agricultural and economic impact

Blackberry invades pastures, riverbanks and creeklines, forming dense thickets that harbour pests such as foxes and rabbits.

Declared pest category

The [Western Australian Organism List](#) (WAOL) contains information on the area(s) in which this pest is declared and the control and keeping categories to which it has been assigned in Western Australia (WA). Use the following WAOL link to reach the declaration and declaration map for: [Rubus anglocandicans](#) , [Rubus laudatus](#) , [Rubus rugosus](#) and [Rubus ulmifolius](#) .

Requirements for land owners/occupiers and other persons

Requirements for land owners/occupiers and other persons if this pest is found can be sourced through the [declared plant requirements](#) link.

Search > detect > report

MyPestGuide™ Reporter via app or online (Select 'Send report to MyWeedWatcher' from menu) mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au	Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) +61 (0)8 9368 3080 padis@dpiird.wa.gov.au
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Detectability: [medium difficulty to find](#). As its common name suggests, early blackberry (*Rubus laudatus*) flowers about a month earlier than other weedy blackberry species. Early blackberry can also be distinguished from other species because the leaves are green on both surfaces. The leaves of other weedy blackberries are green on the upper surface but white or whitish on the underside.

Who is likely to find it: landholders, biosecurity groups, natural resource management groups and others including the Harvey River Restoration Taskforce and Leschenault Catchment Council.

















































When to find it: early blackberry starts flowering in late spring, with white flowers noticeable by October. Other weedy blackberries start to flower in November/December.

Where to find it: early blackberry is most common in the Perth hills, and is also found from Perth to the south coast. Many infestations along the Brunswick and Collie rivers have been sprayed.

Control method

Control methods for this declared plant can be found through the [blackberry control](#) link.

Management calendar: for early blackberry (*Rubus laudatus*)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Search												
Dormant												
Germination												
Actively growing												
Flowering												
Fruiting												
Treatment: while actively growing												
Manual removal												

See Also

[Blackberry control](#)

[Declared plant links](#)

[Declared plant requirements](#)

[Reporting weeds using MyPestGuide® Reporter](#)

Documents

[Instructions to use MPG Reporter app general V1.pdf](#)

Links

[Online weed identification training](#)

[Western Australian Organism List \(WAOL\): blackberry: *Rubus anglocandicans*](#)

[Western Australian Organism List \(WAOL\): early blackberry: *Rubus laudatus*](#)

[Western Australian Organism List \(WAOL\): blackberry: *Rubus rugosus*](#)

[Western Australian Organism List \(WAOL\): blackberry: *Rubus ulmifolius*](#)

[Weed of National Significance \(WoNS\)](#)

[FloraBase: blackberry: *Rubus anglocandicans*](#)

[FloraBase: early blackberry: *Rubus laudatus*](#)

[FloraBase: *Rubus rugosus*](#)

[FloraBase: blackberry: *Rubus ulmifolius*](#)

[FloraBase: blackberry: *Rubus* spp](#)

All Page Links

[1] https://www.environment.gov.au/cgi-bin/biodiversity/invasive/weeds/weeddetails.pl?taxon_id=68406

[2] <http://dafwa.moodle.com.au/externaluser/>

[3] <http://dafwa.moodle.com.au/externaluser/course/view.php?id=31>

[4] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms>

[5] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/108704>

[6] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/113605>

[7] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/107376>

[8] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/109161>

- [9] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/declared-plants/declared-plant-requirements>
- [10] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/pests-weeds-diseases/mypestguide>
- [11] <mailto:padis@dpird.wa.gov.au>
- [12] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/herbicides/blackberry-control>
- [13] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/declared-plants/declared-plant-links>
- [14] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/weeds/reporting-weeds-using-mypestguide%C2%AE-reporter>
- [15] <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/sites/gateway/files/Instructions%20to%20use%20MPG%20Reporter%20app%20general%20V1.pdf>
- [16] <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/108704>
- [17] <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/113605>
- [18] <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/107376>
- [19] <http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/organisms/109161>
- [20] <http://weeds.ala.org.au/WoNS/blackberry/>
- [21] <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/20506>
- [22] <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/20496>
- [23] <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/17718>
- [24] <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/3191>
- [25] <http://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/21508>

Source URL: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/declared-plants/blackberry-declared-pest>

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