

# Mesquite

## *Prosopis spp*

Mesquite is declared a Class A (to be eradicated) and Class C (not to be introduced) weed in the Northern Territory and is a Weed of National Significance in Australia.

Mesquite is a declared weed in accordance with the *Weeds Management Act*.

### HABIT



Multi-stemmed shrubby bushes or single stemmed trees with a spreading canopy, growing from 3 - 15m tall.

### STEMS & BRANCHES



Branches have a zigzag structure with single branches extending outside the main canopy.

Mesquites are mostly thorny, with thorns ranging in length from 4mm to over 75mm.

### LEAVES



Leaves occur at each point where the branch changes direction. They are twice-divided, with 1 - 4 pairs of primary leaflets each with 7 - 21 pairs of small opposite secondary leaflets.

### FLOWERS



Greenish yellow flowers forming a cylindrical flower head 50 - 80mm long.

Flowers of all mesquite varieties have similar characteristics.

### FRUIT & SEED



Fruit is a pale brown pod, maturing to straw coloured. It is 12 - 20cm long and straight or slightly curved, with slight constrictions between the 10 - 20 enclosed seeds.

Weed Management Officers from the Weed Management Branch can provide advice on all aspects of weed management including control techniques, biological control, legislative responsibilities, policy advice, monitoring and reporting and regional planning. For further information on weed management planning, integrated control, herbicide application techniques and monitoring please refer to the [NT Weed Management Handbook](#).