

Parthenium weed

Parthenium hysterophorus

Parthenium weed 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.

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

It is regarded as one of the worst weeds in Australia because of its invasiveness, potential for spread and economic, health and environmental impacts.

HABIT



A fast-maturing branching annual herb. Able to germinate, grow, mature and set seed in 28 days.

Toxic to stock and can cause allergic reactions in people.

STEMS & ROOTS



An erect stem up to 2m high becoming woody with age, and a deep tap root.

LEAVES



Pale green, lobed leaves, covered with soft fine hairs.

FLOWERS



Flowers grow on the stem tips, and are small, white and 4mm across with five distinct corners. Each flower produces four or five seeds.

FRUIT & SEED



Seeds are black and wedge-shaped, 2mm long, with thin white scales. Up to 100,000 seeds produced per plant.

Seeds spread easily by vehicles, machinery, stock, grain and fodder.

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](#).