

Physic nut

Jatropha curcas

Physic nut is declared a Class A (to be eradicated) and Class C (not to be introduced) weed in the Northern Territory.

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

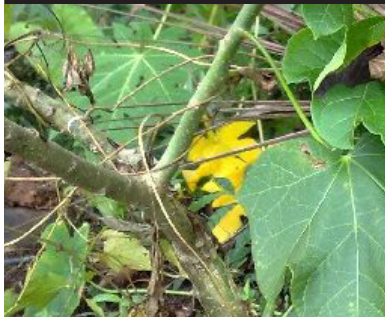
HABIT



Physic nut is a drought resistant, erect perennial shrub that grows to 4m high.

Reported to be toxic to humans and animals.

STEMS & ROOTS



Plants have grey bark and spreading branches, with thick, sappy stems.

LEAVES



Smooth, dark green leaves, rounded with 3 - 5 lobes and 5 prominent veins that run across the leaf's surface.

FLOWERS



Yellow-green flowers form in clusters on stalks in upper axils.

FRUIT & SEED



Fruit pods change in colour from a green to dark brown when ripe and split into 3 sections. Each section releases 1 - 3 toxic, black oblong seeds 2cm long and 1cm wide.

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](#).