

Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*)



1. **Life Cycle**

- Seed germinate in spring and occasionally at other times, but percentage germination is low.
- Early growth is slow and after a year plant may be no larger than 5cm.
- Flowering commences in late November and extends to January
- Fruit is produced from January to March.
- Plants may be deciduous through winter depending on climate and possibly species.

2. **Dispersal**

- Birds and foxes can distribute the seeds over a wide area.
- Stem tip rooting and root suckering also occurs

3. **Eradication**

Treatment of blackberry infestations may require 2 treatments to control mature canes using spray techniques, and follow up treatments to control new germination from the seed bank.

For cut and paint control, follow up treatments may also be required in order to exhaust the corm storages.

4. **Control Techniques**

Non-chemical Control:

Seedlings and small plants can be dug out taking care to remove roots, and not leave either roots or tips touching moist ground as they may reshoot new roots.

Chemical control:

Chemicals used

Please Note:

All chemical recommendations discussed are done so with the understanding that ANY and ALL herbicides applications are carried out within the guidelines as stated within the current chemical Material Data Safety Sheets. Any deviation from the MSDS instructions for rates, safety guidelines, applications etc are in NO WAY endorsed, instructed or recommended by Seeds Bushland Restorations.

It is common, good practice to be thoroughly familiar with any given herbicide prior to use.

<i>Technique</i>	<i>Chem/Rate</i>	<i>OH&S</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Comments</i>
Cut and paint	RoundUp @ 100%	Chemical resistant gloves, long sleeves.	Any – except extreme heat when plant may shut down.	IMPORTANT: Apply chemicals with 1min of cut or cut will seal up Ensure any cut canes do not have either cut end or cane tip touching water or moist soil, as these will restrike new roots.
Knapsack Spray	Metsulphuron methyl (Esteem or BrushOff) @ 1g/10L plus any penetrant (Pulse) @ 20ml/10L Or Triclopyr (Garlon 600) @ 17ml/10L	Gumboots, chemical resistant gloves, long sleeves and long pants, hat, safety glasses or goggles. Face shield when mixing up. Do not spray in windy conditions of plants higher than 1m. *Respirator with Garlon **Gloves for Garlon must be Non-PVC	Any – except extreme heat when plant may shut down. DO NOT spray Garlon >28dg Celsius	Any other plant over sprayed will die. DO NOT spray Garlon >28dg Celsius DO NOT spray Garlon around Vineyard crops
Tanker Spray	Metsulphuron methyl (Esteem or BrushOff) @ 15g/100L plus any penetrant (Pulse) @ 200ml/100L Or Triclopyr (Garlon 600) @ 170ml/100L	Gumboots, chemical resistant gloves, long sleeves and long pants, hat, safety glasses or goggles. Face shield when mixing up. Do not spray in windy conditions of plants higher than 1m. *Respirator with Garlon **Gloves for Garlon must be Non-PVC	Any – except extreme heat when plant may shut down. DO NOT spray Garlon >28dg Celsius	Any other plant over sprayed will die. DO NOT spray Garlon >28dg Celsius DO NOT spray Garlon around Vineyard crops

5. Timing of application

Previous works were done Late November through to Late May, current trials will determine if earlier application is an option.

6. Application notes

- Surfactant is essential
- Slashing thickets as a pre-spray aid has limited value as the amount of new growth produced in the season following slashing is often not enough to ensure sufficient herbicide uptake.

7. References

Parsons W.T. & Cuthbertson E.G.(2001) Noxious Weeds of Australia
Muyt, Adam (2001) Bush Invaders of South-East Australia