**BLACK LOCUST – FALSE ACACIA**

*Robinia pseudoacacia*

**Origin**
North America

**Description**
Deciduous large shrub or small tree to 15 m, bearing large, broad-based, rose-like spikes (5–25 mm long) near the base of the leaves.

**Leaves**
Alternate, compound, borne on stalks. 14–45 mm long with 11–21 oval or oblong leaflets. Margins entire, tips rounded or slightly notched. Hairless or sometimes sparsely hairy when young.

**Flowers**
Fragrant, white (occasionally pink or purple) pea-type flowers arranged in elongated clusters (10–15 cm long). Flowers spring to early summer.

**Fruit**
Elongated and flattened pods (3–8 cm long and 10–15 mm wide), brown as they mature. Fruit are hairless and split open when mature to release black or dark brown seeds.

**Bark**
The bark on the main trunk of older trees is greyish and eventually becomes deeply furrowed.

**Dispersal**
Often reproduces by root suckers, which can arise spontaneously from the extensive fibrous root system even when the above-ground parts of the plant are undamaged. It also reproduces by seed and will re-sprout vigorously from stumps that have been cut or damaged by fire.

**Control**
Difficult. Hand-pull small plants. Cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
**Origin**
North America

**Description**
Deciduous, rapidly-growing tree to about 20 m tall with one and up to four trunks. It is distinguished by its non-drooping habit and twigs which are shiny and red-brown when exposed to sun. Plants are male or female. Black Willow hybridises with other willows.

**Leaves**
Thin, narrow, almost equally green on both sides. They are narrow and taper to a point, with long, sharply curved tips and finely toothed margins.

**Flowers**
Flower spikes are called catkins. Male catkins are yellow and female catkins are green. Catkins appear with leaves in spring.

**Bark**
Deeply fissured grey bark on stems more than 10 cm in diameter.

**Dispersal**
By seed and plant fragments. Prolific seeders in spring. Seed viable for only 24 hours.

**Control**
Dig out plant completely. Stem inject with 100% glyphosate.
**Origin**  
North America

**Description**  
Deciduous tree to 20 m high. Bark smooth when young, becoming flaky later, brownish-grey and pinkish-brown underneath. Occurs and spreads in temperate regions.

**Leaves**  
Compound, pinnate with 3–7 leaflets that have toothed or lobed margins with leaflets 4–12 cm long, 2–4.5 cm wide and larger terminal leaflet up to 15 cm long and to 8 cm wide; leaf stalk 5–12 cm long.

**Flowers**  
Numerous, yellow-green, lacking petals. Appear before leaves in spring. Male and female flowers on different plants, male flowers clustered and hanging, female flowers borne on a single long drooping branched stalk (raceme).

**Fruit**  
V-shaped fruit (samaras) 3–4 cm long and winged below the seeds. Seed about 1.5 cm long.

**Dispersal**  
By seed.

**Control**  
Hand-pull small plants. Cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
Origin                           South America
Description                      Small tree, 6–10 m tall and 4.5 m wide, bearing a short trunk with multiple branches. Dioecious, i.e. male & female trees.
Leaves                           Compound, opposite, pinnate with 3–9 leaflets including a terminal leaflet. The petiole of the leaf has a swelling at the base. Leaflets 3–8 cm long, mid to dark green, without petioles and hairless. Margins entire or sometimes serrated, especially in juveniles. Main stem red tinged. Peppery aroma when crushed.
Flowers                          Inflorescence a panicle. Flowers small, cream to white, 5 petals, in clusters at end of branches.
Fruit                            Round drupe, green and ripening to glossy red, about 5 mm diameter.
Roots                            Strong root system, capable of coppicing and suckering.
Dispersal                        Seed is spread by water, animals, contaminated soil and garden waste dumping.
Control                          Difficult to control. Hand-pull small plants. Cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
**CADAGHI GUM**  
*Corymbia torelliana*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Origin</strong></th>
<th>North Queensland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
<td>Evergreen tree to 30m. Trunk has a stocking of grey scaly bark at the base, smooth pale green bark above. This Australian native tree occurs naturally in tropical Queensland rainforest. It became popular as a garden and shelterbelt tree in the 1990’s and has been planted widely.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The problem</strong></td>
<td>Cadaghi can hybridise with local <em>Corymbia</em> species, contaminating the gene pools. Native beehives can become clogged with its resin and seeds, endangering the beehive. Hybrids can have weak limbs that drop and cause damage. Cadaghi has been found to spread into forest areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leaves</strong></td>
<td>Pale green, sometimes with a pink tinge, wavy edges, variable size, to 16 cm long. New growth hairy. Leaves are often covered with a black, sooty mould which stains cars and roofs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flowers</strong></td>
<td>In masses of cream coloured, scented balls in terminal clusters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fruit</strong></td>
<td>Fruits almost round, woody capsule. Many tiny seeds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dispersal</strong></td>
<td>Seed spread by wind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Control</strong></td>
<td>Hand-pull seedlings. Stem inject with 100% glyphosate.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Origin**  
China, Japan, Taiwan, Indochina

**Description**  
Large, attractive evergreen tree, 20–30 metres tall.

**Leaves**  
5–11 cm long, ovate, slightly wavy margins. The leaves have a glossy, waxy appearance and smell of camphor when crushed.

**Flowers**  
Clusters of fragrant small white flowers in spring.

**Fruit**  
Black, round, hard fruit, around one cm in diameter, ripening in autumn. Each berry contains one seed.

**Bark**  
Pale and rough, fissured vertically.

**Roots**  
Strong root system, capable of coppicing and suckering, aqua-phobic (turning away from water on stream banks).

**Dispersal**  
By water, birds and other animals, contaminated soil and garden waste dumping.

**Control**  
Difficult. Hand-pull small seedlings, cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.

---

Camphor Laurel is probably the single most serious weed tree on the north coast of NSW with the potential to threaten many native habitats.
CHINESE CELTIS

*Celtis sinensis*

**Origin**
China, Korea and Japan

**Description**
Deciduous shrub or tree to 15 m (rarely to 25 m) high. Bark smooth, silvery grey. Young branches with white spots.

**Leaves**
Base of leaves asymmetrically attached to leaf stalk; leaves emerging at flowering, initially hairy, particularly below, but rapidly becoming almost hairless. Ovate, 4–10 cm long, 2–4.5 cm wide and shiny. Upper leaf edges coarsely toothed.

**Flowers**
Inflorescences of few tiny flowers, bearing 4 creamy petals. Flowering late winter to early spring.

**Fruit**
Globe-shaped, succulent, 6–8 mm wide, on stalk 0.4–1 cm long. Green, turning orange/red in summer–autumn.

**Roots**
Strong root system, capable of suckering.

**Dispersal**
Seeds spread by birds, fruit bats and water.

**Control**
Small plants can be pulled by hand. Cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate. Difficult to control.
Origin
China and Japan

Description
Hardy deciduous medium sized tree to 7 m high. The tree is monoecious, producing male and female flowers on the same plant. Grey-brown, textured bark, becoming fissured with age.

Leaves
Simple, alternate, margins entire, heart-shaped and sometimes with an extended tip. Waxy and bright green, slightly paler underneath, turning yellow, orange, purple and red in the autumn.

Flowers
In terminal spike-like inflorescences up to 20 cm long, light green.

Fruit
Three-lobed capsule with one seed in each lobe. Seeds are covered with vegetable tallow, a white waxy coating.

Dispersal
By water, animals and garden waste dumping.

Control
Small plants can be pulled by hand. Cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate. Difficult to control.
**COCOS PALM**

*Syagrus romanzoffiana*

**Origin**
South America

**Description**
Single-stemmed palm that grows to an average height of 12 m with trunk to 0.6 m wide. Trunk smooth, grey, with widely spaced horizontal leaf scars. Common seedling emerging in rainforest.

**Leaves**
Fronds up to 5 m long, pinnately divided with 150–250 leaflets per side, often in clusters of 2–7. Green upper surface and greyish undersides. Spreading in different planes giving a plume-like appearance.

**Flowers**
Inflorescences initially enclosed by 2 woody pointed bracts. Flowers yellow in groups of 3 where one flower is female and 2 male. Flowers mostly in spring.

**Fruit**
Hanging masses of orange/yellow fruits (2.5–3 cm long and 1–2 cm wide), and often has an untidy appearance due to hanging dead fronds and fermenting dropped fruits.

**Dispersal**
Seed spread by rats and bats.

**Control**
Cut off below the lowest frond. There is no need to treat the stump with herbicide, as it will not reshoot. It is important to hand-pull or chip any seedlings that come up around the base of the palm, and pick up any dropped fruits. When fruits are removed, ensure they are disposed of in sealed plastic bags.
Coral Tree & Cockscomb Coral Tree

*Erythrina sykesii* & *E. christa galli*

**Origin**
South Americas

**Description**
Hardy deciduous medium size trees, Cockscomb Coral Tree smaller. Coral Tree often with sparse foliage. Corky bark often with spines.

**Leaves**
Coral Tree has compound, trifoliate leaves with triangular to obovate leaflets, 7–20 cm long, 7–12 cm wide. Cockscomb Coral Tree leaves are smaller and with prickles.

**Flowers**
Red. Cockscomb flowers pea-shaped in spring and Coral Trees flower all year.

**Fruit**
Coral Trees don’t fruit in Australia and Cockscomb Coral Trees have seed pods, turning brown-black when ripe, 8–22 cm long.

**Dispersal**
By water, vegetative and garden waste dumping.

**Control**
Small plants can be pulled by hand. Stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate. Use drill rather than hatchet because the stem has very high water content. Difficult to control. Stems will re-grow when in contact with soil – remove all cut plant material from site.
**HONEY LOCUST**  
*Gleditsia triacanthos*

**Origin**  
Central and North America

**Description**  
Spreading, deciduous, medium to large tree, 15–25 m, bearing clusters of large thorns, 2–10 cm long. The trunk and limbs of ‘wild’ trees bear very large crucifix-like spines that can grow to more than 50 mm. Root system capable of suckering and coppicing when disturbed.

**Leaves**  
Compound, 15–20 cm long, usually bipinnate (twice divided); leaflets elliptic to ovate, 10–35 mm long, 5–12 mm wide, sparsely toothed.

**Flowers**  
Fragrant, brownish-yellow pea-like flowers in spring as leaves develop or after leaves appear.

**Fruit**  
Pods slightly sickle-shaped, 15–40 cm long, 3–4 cm wide, dark brown, not opening at maturity, containing 15–25 hard brown seeds. Pods relished by livestock.

**Dispersal**  
By water, animal dung, garden waste dumping.

**Control**  
Small plants can be pulled by hand. Cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
ICECREAM BEAN
*Inga edulis*

**Origin**
South America

**Description**
Mature trees reach 30 m height in their native environment, usually below 10 m in Australia. The branches form a broad, flat, moderately dense canopy. The bark is pale grey and smooth. The young twigs are angular in cross-section and covered with fine short hairs.

**Leaves**
Once-pinnate, up to 24 cm long, with 4–6 pairs of opposite leaflets. The petiole looks leaf-like between pairs of leaflets. The seedlings have a characteristic greyish sheen on the upper leaf surface.

**Flowers**
Inflorescence in dense spikes of white flowers, produced in late summer.

**Fruit**
Fruits ribbed, cylindrical pods, straight or often spirally twisted, up to 1 m long. They contain fleshy green seeds in a sweet, white, cottony pulp. The pulp has a sweet vanilla-like taste.

**Dispersal**
By animals and people.

**Control**
Small plants can be pulled by hand. Cut and paint or stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
**Origin**  
China

**Description**  
Spreading deciduous tree to 20m high.

**Leaves**  
Opposite, simple, heart-shaped, large, 12 to 20 cm long, typically quite velvety, green above and paler below; leaves on younger trees will often show coarse serrations or even lobes.

**Flowers**  
Large, showy, upright clusters of purple flowers; individual tube-like or bell-shaped flowers 4 cm long, very fragrant and appearing in mid-spring.

**Fruit**  
Ovoid capsule, 3.5–4.5 cm long including beak, filled with numerous (1,000’s) small seeds; capsules initially sticky and green, later turning brown and dry. Seed spindle-shaped, 2.5–4 mm long including wing.

**Dispersal**  
By seed and suckering.

**Control**  
Hand-pull small seedlings. Stem inject larger ones with neat glyphosate. Stems will re-grow when in contact with soil – remove all cut plant material from site.
Origin: China and Japan

Description: Evergreen small tree to 12 m high. Often occurring in dense thickets/hedges. Shade tolerant. Flowers and fruit similar to small-leaved privet, larger fruit and leaves, taller growth habit.

Leaves: Opposite, ovate to elliptic or narrow-ovate, with pointed tip and rounded base. Leathery, glossy dark green above, paler below with entire margin.

Flowers: Dense panicle 15–25 cm long, fragrant, with 4 white petals, each 3–5 mm long. Flowers in spring and summer.

Fruit: Berry 6–8 mm diameter in clusters, purple/black when ripe. Fruits in autumn and winter.

Dispersal: By seed and suckering. Most seeds fall around the tree. Also dispersed by birds and water.

Control: Hand-pull small seedlings. Stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
RAINTREE – GOLDEN / CHINESE  
Koelreuteria elegans / K. formosana

Origin  
Taiwan

Description  
Hardy, fast-growing tree to 25 m high. Trunk light brown, smooth when young, may develop ridges later. Dense rounded crown, 10–15 m wide when mature.

Leaves  
Compound with pointed serrations, twice divided (bipinnate). Leaves are dark green, hairless, above and paler green below and of variable size and shape. Leaves are feathery, up to 90 mm long. Leaflets narrow, ovate, with irregularly toothed edges and a long, tapered point.

Flowers  
Flowers are small, butter-yellow with five petals, to 20 mm in length, and occur in branched clusters at the stem tips.

Fruit  
Fruit is an inflated papery capsule that splits into three parts and is light pink to deep rose in colour, up to 50 mm long and appears in large drooping clusters. Seeds are small, black and round and about 5 mm in diameter.

Dispersal  
By seed. Seedlings are often found beneath mature trees. They tolerate full sun, partial shade, drought, frost, heat, well drained to wet soils and extended flooding.

Control  
Hand-pull small seedlings. Stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
Rhús Tree
Toxicodendron succedaneum

**Origin**  Asia

**Description**  Small, deciduous tree 5–8 m tall with smooth grey bark, occurring in temperate regions. Contact with plant material, especially sap and even the smoke from burning material can cause severe allergic reactions, usually after repeated exposure.

**Leaves**  Compound with 9–15 leaflets (mostly 11) arranged in pairs, forming a leaf frond 20–35 cm long. The leaflets are 4–10 cm long and 2–3 cm wide. They are bright green above and often greyish beneath because of a waxy bloom on the leaf surface. In autumn they change to a brilliant red before they fall.

**Flowers**  Small creamy-white to yellow flowers occur in large clusters (8–15 cm long) among the new leaves in spring and early summer.

**Fruit**  Hard fruits are 5–11 mm in diameter, round and slightly flattened and pale brown with a papery skin. They hang in clusters on the tree through winter, falling in spring.

**Dispersal**  Seed is spread by birds and remains viable for many years. Can also be spread with garden soil.

**Control**  Hand-pull small seedlings. Stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate. Treat all cut stumps to prevent suckering.
**Tabebuia aurea**

**Origin**  
South America

**Description**  
Small, dry season, deciduous tree growing to 10 m tall. Planted as ornamental trees in Australia.

**Leaves**  
Palmately compound leaves with five to seven leaflets, each leaflet 6–18 cm long. Green with silvery scales above and below.

**Flowers**  
Flowers occur when the tree is losing its leaves. They are bright yellow, up to 6 cm diameter, produced together in a loose panicle.

**Fruit**  
Slender 10 cm long, furry capsule, brown when mature. Dark brown seeds are embedded in white silky material.

**Dispersal**  
By seed with most seedlings occurring around the tree itself. Also spread with contaminated soil and possibly distributed by animals and carried in water.

**Control**  
Hand-pull small seedlings. Stem inject with 100% glyphosate.
Origin  China and Taiwan

Description  Medium-sized deciduous tree (15–30 m) found in temperate climates. Rapidly growing, short-lived (<50 years). Allelopathic (able to suppress other plants). Smooth light grey bark, rougher on older trees.

Leaves  Large, pinnately compound, alternate. 30–90 cm long with 10–41 leaflets in pairs. The central leaf axis is light to reddish-green with a swollen base. The leaflets are ovate-lanceolate with entire margins, occasionally not directly opposite to each other. Leaflets 5–18 cm long and 2.5–5 cm wide. Long tapered ends. Leaflets dark green above, with light green veins, paler below. Petioles 5–12 mm long.

Flowers  Small, in large panicles up to 50 cm long at the end of new shoots. Flowers yellowish green to reddish with five petals and sepals. Male and female flowers on different trees. Male trees produce 3 to 4 times as many flowers as the females and emit a foul-smelling odour while flowering to attract pollinating insects.

Fruit / Seed  5 mm in diameter, encapsulated in a samara (papery wings) that is 2.5 cm long and 1 cm broad. The samara is large and twisted at the tips, making it spin as it falls.

Dispersal  By seed and suckering from shallow roots.

Control  Hand-pull small seedlings. Stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate.
**Origin**  
North Queensland

**Description**  
Straggly, often multi-stemmed, open tree to 10m with dense foliage confined to the ends of trunks.

**Leaves**  
Compound, bright, glossy green. Leaves on stalks up to 50 cm long. Leaflets to 30 cm long, arranged in a palmate whorl (umbrella-like).

**Flowers**  
Small red flowers in long sprays at the top of the plant, radiating from the stem apex. Multiple flower spikes produced at the crown of each trunk. Flowers summer to autumn.

**Fruit**  
Dark red, to 5 mm long, each containing one seed.

**Dispersal**  
Seed spread by water and animals and garden rubbish dumping.

**Control**  
Hand-pull small seedlings. Stem inject larger plants with 100% glyphosate. Stems will re-grow when in contact with soil. Remove all cut plant material from site.