Information Sheet

from NSW Department of Primary Industries – NSW Weedwise
https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds/details/53

Common Name:	**Whisky Grass**	**Scientific Name:**	***Andropogon virginicus***
Classification:	**Perennial tussock monocot.**	**Family:**	**POACEAE**
Description/Identifying features:	Tall grass to 1m high with a distinctive erect, columnar habit and curly leaves. Stems and leaves are green when new, turning purplish to orange and then straw coloured with age.		

Figure 7 *Andropogon virginicus* -Young plant

Figure 8 *Andropogon virginicus* -Mature plant with seed heads

Propagules:		Seed
Means of spread		Wind, animals, machinery, clothing
Geographic distribution:		Occurs in the eastern regions of NSW.
Preferred environment/situation:		Thrives in poor soils. Invades disturbed sites such as road sides and along tracks in bushland areas. Favours sandstone environments.
Area infested		10–20m^2
Percentage cover (average based on per square metre where it occurs)		<10%
Control:	Management:	Consider restricting access by horse and motorbike riders by installing gates, fencing and signage.
	Cultural/Physical:	Hand remove isolated plants and dispose of them carefully to avoid spreading the seed.
	Natural/Biological:	Nil
	Chemical:	n/a – no herbicide use by Narara Ecovillage
	Monitor	Monitor regrowth, any windborne seed that spreads weed to other management areas.
Other information:		Native to south eastern USA.

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Common Name:	**Fireweed**	**Scientific Name:**	***Senecio madagascariensis***
Classification:	**Dicot**	**Family:**	**Asteraceae**
Description/Identifying features:	Annual or biennial herb up 10-60 cm tall with bright yellow flowers		

Fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*)

Caption: Fireweed has small, yellow, daisy-like flowers
Photographer: B. Trounce

Fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*)

Caption: Fireweed is a heavily branched daisy-like plant
Photographer: H. Rose

Propagules:	Each plant can produce up to 18 000 seeds.
Means of spread	Wind spreads the light, hairy seeds. Most seeds fall within 5 m of the parent plant but some can be blown much further. Spreading beyond one kilometre is more likely through human activity. Fireweed is spread: • in contaminated hay, silage and grain products • by livestock birds and other animals • by sticking to clothing, vehicles or machinery
Geographic distribution:	Fireweed grows along the Australian east coast from Victoria to Central Queensland. It is most invasive in coastal regions. It is also on the northern and southern tablelands. https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds/details/53
Preferred environment/situation:	Fireweed thrives in: • overgrazed pastures • disturbed or cultivated soil • most soil types. Fireweed does not grow well in shaded areas or wet areas. It does not survive waterlogging.
Area infested	Area 1
Percentage cover (average based on per square metre where it occurs)	**###**

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Common Name:	**Fireweed**	**Scientific Name:**	***Senecio madagascariensis***

Control:	Management:	Long-term fireweed control needs to consider that: • most new seedlings appear in autumn • many new seedlings appear after rain when temperatures are 15–27°C • seedlings grow fast and can flower 6–10 weeks after emerging • flowering and seeding occur mostly in spring • most plants die off by late spring • some plants live for up to three years - the tops die back in spring and regrow the following autumn • fireweed seed buried deeper than two centimetres is unlikely to germinate • long-term follow up is essential because about 15% of seeds remain dormant for over 10 years. In pastures, combine grazing strategies, pasture improvement and strategic herbicide use. In environmental areas hand-pull individual plants and spot spray herbicide. https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Lantana
	Cultural/Physical:	Pull out individual plants in small, isolated patches or sensitive environmental areas. Wear gloves to protect skin from the plant's poisons. Bag and dispose of the pulled out plants. They are still poisonous to livestock and produce viable seeds if they have flowers
	Natural/Biological:	There are no effective biological control agents available for fireweed. It's difficult to find a biological control that's harmless to the native Senecio species. These insects can attack and sometimes destroy fireweed plants: • A chrysomelid beetle (Chalcolampra species) • A magpie moth (Nyctemera amica) • A blue stem borer moth (Patagoniodes farinaria). They cannot be relied on for control. The damage usually occurs after the plants have produced seeds
	Chemical:	Herbicides are most effective in combination with healthy, competitive pastures. The best time to treat fireweed with herbicide is late autumn. This controls the peak numbers of seedlings and young plants. By late winter herbicide treatments are much less effective. Used correctly, selective herbicides don't kill grasses but do slow their growth. They can kill legumes, which are important pasture plants. Blanket applications of selective herbicide are problematic because pasture growth is set back. Wherever possible limit the application areas in paddocks. Bromoxynil herbicides cause the least damage to legumes but only kill young fireweed plants. Protect legumes by applying only when the maximum daily air temperature will be below 20°C. Metsulfuron-methyl herbicides can kill older fireweed plants, but also kill pasture legumes. Flowering plants can be spot sprayed with herbicides containing aminopyralid or metsulfuron-methyl https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/weeds/details/53
	Monitor	Monitor regrowth
Other information:	Fireweed comes from southeast Africa. It was first seen in the Hunter Valley in 1918	

Information Sheet

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Common Name:	**Lantana**	**Scientific Name:**	***Lantana camara***
Classification:	**Perennial tussock monocot.**	**Family:**	**Verbenaceae**

Description/Identifying features:

Lantana (*Lantana camara*)

Caption: Close up of white flowered lantana with egg-shaped green leaves
Photographer: A. Johnson.

Lantana (*Lantana camara*)

Caption: Lantana fruit turns from green to dark purple as it ripens
Photographer: A. Johnson.

Propagules:	Seed – a single plant can produce up to 12,000 fruit and seeds in a year.
Means of spread	Seed spread by birds, water, in soil, on machinery and garden waste. Grows after being cut back.
Geographic distribution:	Occurs mainly in coastal areas and east of the Great Divide NSW as well as isolated inland areas. https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/DistributionProfiles/Details/70
Preferred environment/situation:	Lantana prefers: • warm weather with more than 900 mm annual rainfall • well-drained, fertile soils • coastal areas • altitudes up to 1000 m. Lantana can survive periods of drought. It tolerates poor soils and sand and will grow on stony hillsides as long as moisture is available
Area infested	Area 1
Percentage cover (average based on per square metre where it occurs)	**##**

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from NSW Department of Primary Industries – NSW Weedwise
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Common Name:	**Lantana**	**Scientific Name:**	***Lantana camara***
Control:	Management:	Successful weed control takes time and follow up efforts to monitor and suppress weeds. A combination of control methods is usually needed. See DPI Weedwise for additional detail https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Lantana	
	Cultural/Physical:	When: year round, after rain when soil is moist. Follow-up: within 3 to 6 months. Hand pulling can work on small infestations, isolated plants and in steep areas that machinery cannot access. The best time is after rain when soil is moist. Wear gloves when hand pulling. Grub out roots with a mattock or hoe, then roll and haul the stems and roots away. Remove the roots and stems or the lantana will regrow.	
	Natural/Biological:	Since 1914, 32 biological control agents (insects and diseases) have been introduced to help control lantana. 19 have become established and help to reduce lantana in some areas	
	Chemical:	See NSW Weedwise for current approved herbicides: https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Lantana	
	Monitor	Monitor regrowth	
Other information:	Native to tropical and subtropical regions of Central and South America. It was introduced into Australia in 1841 as an ornamental plant.		