



Useful Contacts

Contractors who have experience killing Serrated Tussock:

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Serrated Tussock Control Plan



A template to help you develop an integrated serrated tussock control plan for your property



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OUR
COUNTRY



“The most expensive form of control is no control”

4 steps to developing your serrated tussock control plan

- Step 1: Assess the site**
- Step 2: Set your objectives**
- Step 3: Develop and implement the action plan**
- Step 4: Monitor outcomes and adjust the plan**

This document is a template for you to use to develop a strategic and integrated plan that will help you effectively control serrated tussock on your property. It provides summary information on control methods, a control calendar and logbook.

More detailed information can be found in *The National Best Practice Manual for Serrated Tussock* available online at: <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/serratedtussock/> by phoning 1800 028 374 or by contacting Tasmanian Land and Water Professionals (TLWP).

TLWP can also help you to complete this control plan, providing assistance with mapping and advice:

Phone: (03) 6234 2939

Email: oliver@tlwp.com.au

Web: http://www.tlwp.com.au/serrated_tussock_current.html

Further information can also be obtained from your DPIW regional weed officer:

North-West – Kiowa Fenner, ph. 6421 7654

North – David Lane, ph. 6336 5365

South – Karen Stewart, ph. 6233 3650

Serrated Tussock Control Plan Template, 2009

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Cover Photograph: Jarrah Vercoe

Serrated Tussock Control Plan (Template)

A tool to help you control serrated tussock on your property.

Step 1: Assess the site

Record past control actions / property details

Property Name:

Address:

Owner name:

Primary land use:

How long has serrated tussock been on the property (if known)?

How do you think it got to the property?

Is it spreading? How much? Where to?

Is it affecting neighbouring properties? How?

What has been done to control serrated tussock on the property in the past?

Where is serrated tussock on the property and how much is there?

In order to successfully control serrated tussock, the extent of the infestation needs to be known. This will allow you to prioritise areas to eradicate and ensure controlled areas are not continually reinfested from surrounding areas. A map of your property, either sketched or on a topographic map or aerial photo will help. More information on mapping can be found on page 29 of the National Best Practice Manual for Serrated Tussock (The Manual).

On a map of your property mark the location of serrated tussock infestations and their density (e.g. low, medium or high density).

- Low = scattered plants / less than 10% cover
- Medium = 10 to 30% cover
- High = greater than 30% cover

before and after control actions (more information on monitoring on page 34 of manual).

Notes	Effectiveness / did it work? – enter follow up required in Action Plan
<i>Small tussocks hard to see due to thick native grass – check again and spray if needed in autumn.</i>	<i>Successfully killed all large tussocks. Scattered small tussocks were missed – spot spray again in autumn.</i>

Develop an Action Plan

For each zone, write down the control actions you plan to undertake.

	Zone	Objective / Goal		
			Winter	Spring
Short-term (this year)	e.g. Zone 1A (top half of top paddock, 4ha)	Kill all serrated tussock in Zone 1A.	Chip all scattered tussocks on flat part of paddock.	Spot spray tussocks on steep banks with flupropanate (early spring). Search for seedlings and chip out.
Medium-term (next 3 yrs)				
Long-term (next 15 yrs)				

Zone 2 – Containment Zone

Eg: bottom half of top paddock, 6 hectares, northerly aspect, pasture, high density mature plants and some seedlings

Zone 3 – Exclusion Zone

Eg: remainder of property, bottom paddock, flat, improved pasture; and Hill top bush run, woodland.

Step 2: Set your objectives

Objectives are statements of the intended outcome you want to achieve over a certain time frame. They may be short, medium or long-term and should be realistic and achievable (examples can be found on page 32 of the Manual). For Serrated Tussock control on your property, state your objectives.

Short-term
Medium-term
Long-term

Step 3: Develop and implement the action plan

No single technique should be relied on to manage serrated tussock. Each situation will require a different combination of control methods to achieve success. Different control methods are detailed in section 4 of the Manual.

Lifecycle Control Calendar

To be effective control techniques (including spraying, slashing, burning, grazing etc) need to be timed to particular stages of the lifecycle of the plant. There may be some variation in timing from year to year or place to place, depending on the seasonal conditions.

Plant appearance	Lifecycle stage / Description	Actions to take
	<p>Germination/seedling establishment Seedlings are bright green and upright and are more likely to occur in areas of bare ground. Seedlings are weak and slow growing so are vulnerable to competition. I.e. best time to get 'em!!!</p> <p>Approximate time of year Mainly occurs through autumn and winter but can occur at any time of the year following good rains or soil disturbance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey property and manually chip seedlings when found. - Maintain good cover of desirable species. - Chip/hand pull small infestations or isolated plants. - Spot spray low density infestations. - Broad acre spray high density infestations.
	<p>Active Growth Tussocks are a bright green colour, with golden brown tips.</p> <p>Approximate time of year Mainly occurs during favourable autumns, spring and early summer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chip small infestations or isolated plants. - Spot spray low density infestations. - Broad acre spray high density infestations.
	<p>Flowering and Seed Formation Purple seed heads – drooping and green stems</p> <p>Approximate time of year Usually early summer but under favourable conditions (e.g. good rains) can be from September to April.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ideally control actions will prevent flowering. Grazing, slashing and burning can stop plants from setting seed. - Chip small infestations. - Remove stock to prevent seed spread. - Hygiene measures: be careful moving stock, vehicles, machinery.
	<p>Seed dispersal Seed heads and leaf tips begin to go a golden straw colour. Whole seed heads break off from the tussocks and are dispersed. Tussocks remain bright green towards the base.</p> <p>Approximate time of year November – June (under favourable conditions, e.g. good rains it can be October to May)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove stock to prevent seed spread. - Chip, bag and bury any plants with seed. -Hygiene measures: be careful moving stock, vehicles, machinery. -Long term seed spread prevention measures – mesh fencing, windbreaks...
	<p>Frost bleaching Distinctive golden yellow colour.</p> <p>Approximate time of year Late autumn and winter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chip small infestations. - Cultivate large infestations and sow new pasture in autumn. - Avoid overgrazing to maximise growth of desirable species.