

Ornamental lantana

The sale and distribution of lantana or its reproductive materials is now banned in all states and territories of Australia. However, ornamental varieties are still found in many private and public plantings.

While many ornamentals were developed and sold as sterile hybrids, they can set seed and spread vegetatively. These plants have the potential to cross-pollinate with seed-producing forms creating new varieties that may have the ability to naturalise in the environment. This makes finding effective biological control agents difficult, and has the potential to extend the climatic tolerances and range of the weed's spread.



My life is in your hands, native animals need native plants. Get rid of lantana.

I may be pretty but don't underestimate the damage I can do. Don't let garden plants ruin our grazing lands and natural environments.



What can I do?

- treat all forms of lantana as undesirable and remove them from your property
- control all isolated infestations to stop potential spread
- don't sell, trade or move lantana (this is now illegal in all states and territories)
- remove lantana from streetscapes, parks, playgrounds, landscaping, reserves and natural areas.

Where do I seek advice?

Your local government or state government weeds officer has information about identifying and controlling lantana.

For more information on the impact of lantana and appropriate control methods, visit the lantana Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) section of the Weeds Australia website:

www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/lantana

or contact the WoNS team on lantanaWoNS@dpi.qld.gov.au.



Queensland Government
Department of
Primary Industries
and Fisheries



Australian Government

Lantana

Lantana camara



**Free
Australia
from
the weed
Lantana**

The lantana threat

Lantana (*Lantana camara*) is a serious weed in Australia, costing the grazing sector more than \$104 million (2005–06 figures) annually and seriously degrading sensitive ecosystems.

This Weed of National Significance (WoNS):

- forms dense thickets that smother and kill native vegetation and are impenetrable for animals, people and vehicles
- destroys natural wildlife habitats
- creates hotter, more damaging bushfires
- spoils the amenity of bushland areas
- poisons stock and native animals
- replaces desirable native and pasture species
- increases management costs in forestry operations
- promotes unnaturally high numbers of some bird species, effecting the sensitive balance of ecosystems
- increases soil fertility encouraging further exotic weed invasions into native areas
- provides a refuge for feral animals.

There are at least 29 varieties of lantana (*L. camara* species complex) recognised in Australia. It currently infests more than four million hectares of Queensland and New South Wales, with isolated infestations found in Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Lantana has the potential to spread extensively over 35 million hectares—both in distribution and density—so early management in lightly infested areas is critical.

Current and potential distribution of lantana

Lantana camara

Potential distribution is based on CLIMEX modelling (Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries, Queensland 2007).



What does lantana look like?

- thicket forming shrub
- stems square in cross section with backwardly hooked prickles
- leaves opposite, serrated and strongly aromatic when crushed.



Pink lantana



White lantana



Orange lantana



Pink edged red lantana



Red lantana