

# Blackberry

*Rubus fruticosus aggregate*



## Noxious Weed

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Flowering	☑	☑									☑	☑
Seeding	☑	☑	☑	☑								☑
Germination									☑	☑	☑	☑
Control	☑	☑	☑	☑					☑	☑	☑	☑

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### **Noxious Weed**

#### **FLOWERS:**

Delicate white flower, often with a light pink blush 2-3cm in diameter in spring-summer. Formed in clusters at the ends of the branches. Generally the flowers have five petals, usually growing in small bunches.

#### **LEAVES:**

Consist of three to five separate leaflets at alternate spacing along the stem. They are dark green often turning a reddish-purplish in autumn with leaf fall in winter to expose the tangled mass of canes (stems). Leaves have serrated edges and prominent veins. The underside of the leaves have a downy white-light green appearance and thorns (small hooks) along the middle vein.

#### **STEMS:**

Long green, purplish or red depending on how much light they get. Stems (canes) approximately pencil thick, covered in hooked thorns which look similar to rose bush thorns. The canes may be erect, arching or trailing and can reach 6 metres in length.

#### **SEED:**

Small, roundish fruit/berries usually the size of a five cent piece. Starting off green and gradually maturing to a dark purple colour. Each berry can have 20-30 seeds the size of a sesame seed. Scattered between these small fruits are tiny bristles.

#### **LIFECYCLE:**

Sprawling stems (canes) which can often reach over 3 metres in height depending on local climatic conditions. The canes regularly arch over to the ground where the tip of the cane takes root to become another plant. In high moisture areas such as along watercourses blackberries can become a thick impenetrable tangled mass.

#### **CONTROL:**

Non-chemical control: Hand pulling small juvenile plants.

Chemical control:

- Cut and paint,
- Scrape and paint,
- Spray.

(ALL herbicides applications should be carried out as stated within the manufacturers guidelines and the current chemical Material Data Safety Sheets.)