



Biosecurity alert: Boneseed

(*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *monilifera*)

The pest and its impacts

Boneseed (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* ssp. *monilifera*) is a large perennial shrub and an environmental weed that has the potential to threaten natural ecosystems and spread throughout the south-west and surrounding areas if allowed to establish. It is a declared pest in Western Australia and also a Weed of National Significance. Several infestations in the Perth Hills and wheatbelt towns are under surveillance and working towards eradication.

Boneseed characteristics

- found in both disturbed and undisturbed areas, roadsides, gardens and bushland
- prolific seeder, can produce up to 50,000 seeds per plant every year
- seedbank is stimulated by fire and, if not controlled, can out-compete native vegetation post-fire
- spread by birds, animals and dumped garden waste
- seeds survive up to 15 years requiring long-term monitoring for new seedlings
- very hardy and adaptable with vigorous growth, and can out-compete native vegetation
- shrubs can live for 10 to 20 years.



Boneseed fruit



LOOK for this pest

- large perennial evergreen shrub up to 3 metres high, erect and densely branched
- bright yellow flower clusters appear August to October on branch tips of large shrubs, daisy-like with 4 to 8 petals (can be up to 13)
- leaves are dull green, smooth, irregularly serrated and paddle-shaped with tufts of cottony-down on new growth
- fruit are round fleshy berries in clusters of up to 8, appearing during September to November, ripening green to black and contain one seed
- seeds are smooth, very hard (bone-like), germinates mainly in autumn if adequate soil moisture present
- may also be confused with flowering native buttercups, bitou bush, native boobialla, African veldt daisy and flax-leaf broom bush.



Flowering boneseed

Key points

- If found, report it.
- Seedlings are shallow-rooted and easily hand-pulled, mature plants can be dug up.
- Collect and bag-up any fruit or seeds (on plant or ground) for disposal.
- Movement is prohibited. Leave weeded plants to die where found to prevent spread.



REPORT suspected boneseed

- Be aware of any new or unusual plants
- Prompt action is necessary to assist in eradication
- Note the date, time and location of the pest
- Take photographs of the plant, young leaves, flowers and any fruit or seeds.

Report your observations



MyPestGuide® Reporter
via app or online
mypestguide.dpird.wa.gov.au

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