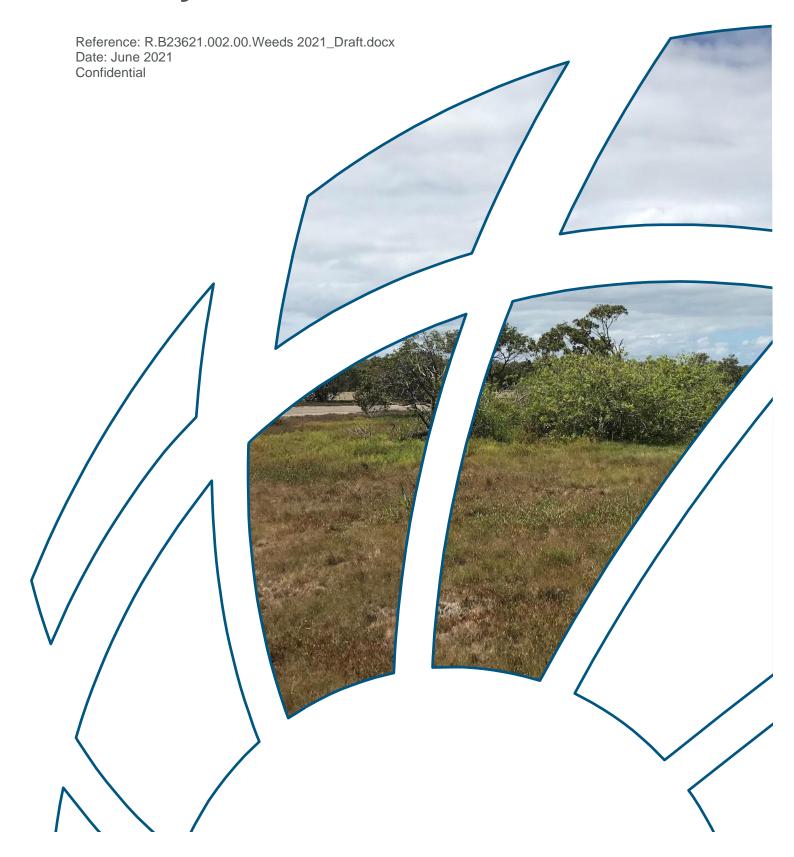


# **Port of Brisbane Annual Weed Survey 2021**



#### **Document Control Sheet**

Document: R.B23621.002.00.Weeds 2021\_Draft.docx BMT Commercial Australia Ptv Ltd Level 5, 348 Edward Street Title: Port of Brisbane Annual Weed Survey Brisbane Qld 4000 Australia PO Box 203, Spring Hill 4004 **Project Manager:** Suanne Richards Tel: +61 7 3831 6744 Fax: + 61 7 3832 3627 Author: Suanne Richards, Brianna Heeley Client: Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd ABN 54 010 830 421 **Client Contact:** Penelope Webster www.bmt.org Client Reference: This report provides the results of the 2021 Weed Monitoring Program at the Port Synopsis: of Brisbane.

#### **REVISION/CHECKING HISTORY**

Revision Number	Date	Checked by		Issued by	
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#### **Executive Summary**

Weed monitoring has been conducted annually at the Port of Brisbane (the Port) since 2001. The program aims to:

- detect the introduction and spread of new weed species on Port lands
- monitor priority weed species at high value natural asset locations managed by the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL), especially habitat for migratory waders, locally significant wetlands and sites considered to be at potential risk to new weed incursion from imported vehicles.

Priority weeds targeted in the survey include Weeds of National Significance, Prohibited and Restricted Matters regulated under the Queensland *Biosecurity Act 2014*, environmental weeds listed by the Brisbane City Council and native species that have the potential to negatively impact on local habitat values.

Weed composition and distribution at the Port has remained relatively stable over the monitoring period. No newly imported weeds were recorded at the Port. The sites considered most at risk to weed imports are imported vehicle storage areas and downstream environments. These areas are maintained (mown) and/or are influenced by saline water, reducing the potential for new weeds to establish and spread.

All weed species recorded at the monitoring sites are common and widespread in degraded coastal habitats of south-east Queensland. No new weed species were recorded during the survey. Patches of native reed *Phragmites australis* and *Sesbania cannabina* were detected - both species may impact saltmarsh habitat values, particularly in the bird hide. *Sesbania* is an annual to perennial woody plant that can form dense thickets which die out and are re-established through the soil seedbank. Ongoing monitoring will assess whether these species are contributing to altered hydrological conditions that may favour the establishment of terrestrial weeds which could reduce saltmarsh values for migratory waders.

Regular monitoring has indicated that weeds recorded at the Port are widespread in south-east Queensland and that saltmarsh communities are vulnerable to the impacts of exotic and native species encroachment. Annual monitoring will be required to monitor these high value habitats to ensure weed control measures can be applied, if required, to protect habitat condition and resources (e.g. wader feeding grounds).

Restoration works at Fort Lytton have resulted in an increase in saltmarsh habitat in previously degraded habitats. The restored habitats comprise succulent saltmarsh, saltcouch grasslands, intertidal mudflats and sparse mangrove recruitment. There was also evidence of wader-use at this newly restored site. Filled sites within and directly adjacent to intertidal wetlands at Port Drive may have similar restoration potential. It is recommended that recreational and service vehicles are prevented from accessing intertidal habitats at Port Drive to protect saltmarsh and wader habitat values.



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#### 1 Introduction

Weed monitoring surveys have been conducted annually at the Port of Brisbane (the Port) since 2001. The weed monitoring program aims to detect the introduction and spread of new weed species at the Port and to monitor priority weed species within high value natural assets managed by the Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd (PBPL). The monitoring program focuses on habitat for migratory waders, locally significant wetlands and sites considered to be at potential risk to new weed incursion from imported goods.

Priority weeds targeted in the survey include plant species listed under one or more of the following categories:

- Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) (refer Appendix A)
- Prohibited and Restricted Matters regulated under the Queensland Biosecurity Act 2014 (refer Appendix B)
- Environmental weeds listed by the Brisbane City Council (refer Appendix C)
- Native species that have the potential to negatively impact on local natural assets.

Recommendations for strategic weed management at the Port are provided based on a risk-based approach which considers feasibility, likelihood of success and impact.



#### 2 Methodology

In accordance with previous monitoring surveys, weed inspections in 2021 were undertaken in postsummer in March. The survey was conducted by a qualified botanist (Suanne Richards) with over 20 years weed and native vegetation survey experience in coastal south-east Queensland habitats.

All surveys were conducted on-foot to ensure that extensive coverage of the survey sites was achieved. Incidental observations of target weed species outside the survey sites were also recorded. The locations of all notable weed observations were recorded on a handheld GPS. Weed identification was undertaken on site.

Sesbania cannabina is a native species however, it's presence was recorded as this this woody species can form thickets and it is potentially spreading in local saltmarsh and developing a seedbank. It has the potential to displace low saltmarsh cover and provide conditions more suitable for exotic grasses. We are monitoring it to ensure it doesn't form permanent extensive thickets to the point it excludes low saltmarsh and wader habitat.

Survey sites were comprised of the following:

- Sites of locally significant natural asset value:
  - Bird Hide habitat for migratory waders
  - Local bird habitat at the lake adjacent to the previous Visitors Centre
  - o Locally significant wetlands at Lucinda Drain, Port Drive, Fort Lytton and Port West.
- Sites at risk to new weed imports:
  - T1-3 Overflow area and Car Precinct Area
  - Port West Drain
  - Port Gate Drain.

Whilst every effort has been made to identify targeted weed species in the Port survey sites, the detectability of plant species and the ability to accurately identify these in the field varies with seasonal and climatic conditions. Such conditions influence the presence of reproductive features (flowers, fruits and seeds) which are useful, and in some cases essential, for species identification. Consequently, the survey conducted should not be regarded as conclusive that targeted weeds do not occur at the Port.



Figure 3-1 shows the distribution of the major environmental and restricted weeds recorded in the 2021 survey. The following section provides a description of weed composition and distribution recorded at each of the survey sites in 2021.

#### 3.1 Locally Significant Natural Assets

#### 3.1.1 Lucinda Drain

#### 3.1.1.1 Site Description

Lucinda Drain is a constructed channel located east of Lucinda Drive that provides drainage for stormwater run-off from hardstand areas at the Port to the north. The drain lies adjacent to locally significant estuarine wetlands and discharges through the Lucinda Weir into Boat Passage.

The tidal channel does not contain extensive aquatic macrophyte cover but supported a low, discontinuous fringe of native grey mangrove (*Avicennia marina*). The drain is periodically maintained, with mangroves actively removed to ensure the drain fulfils its primary purpose for stormwater run-off.

The channel banks supported planted and naturally recruited shrubs and trees comprised of a mix of local native terrestrial species such as eucalypts, she-oaks (*Casuarina* spp.), figs (*Ficus* spp.), cotton tree (*Hibiscus tiliaceus*), *Melaleuca* spp. and *Macaranga tanarius*. Introduced shrubs were sparse and the groundcover was dominated by exotic grasses.

The western bank of the drain adjacent to Lucinda Drive undergoes regular maintenance involving mowing and weed spraying. Poor access along the eastern bank of Lucinda Drain limits regular maintenance but weeds are reportedly removed on an annual basis.

#### 3.1.1.2 Weeds

The following observations were made in the 2021 survey:

- No new weed species were recorded within or directly adjacent to Lucinda Drain
- Woody weed cover remains sparse due to active weed management
- Restricted Matters recorded included: widespread but sparse broad-leaved pepper tree (Schinus terebinthifolius), lantana (Lantana camara) and groundsel (Baccharis halimifolia)
- Exotic species recorded were dominated by environmental weeds well established across
  Brisbane including: mile a minute (Ipomoea cairica), Schinus terebinthifolius, siratro (Macroptilium
  atropurpureum), Rhode's grass (Chloris gayana), green panic (Megathyrsus maximus var.
  maximus), Brazilian nightshade (Solanum seaforthianum), blackberry nightshade (Solanum
  nigrum) and rattlepod (Crotalaria pallida)
- Consistent with previous surveys, the dominant woody weed recorded at Lucinda Drain was Schinus terebinthifolius. Other woody weeds included Lantana camara and Leucaena leucocephala



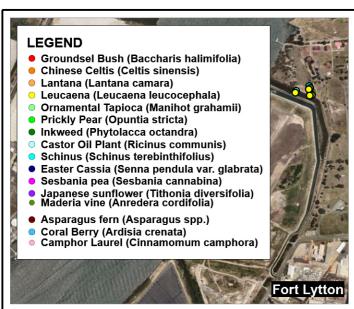












Figure:

3-1

**LEGEND** 

### 2021 Weed Survey Results

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- Macroptilium atropurpureum, Ipomoea cairica, glycine (Neonotonia wightii) and Solanum seaforthianum were the most abundant exotic vine species
- The groundcover was dominated by mown exotic grasses including *Chloris gayana*, *Megathyrsus maximus* var. *maximus*, *Melinis repens* and Mossman River grass (*Cenchrus echinatus*)
- Other exotic groundcovers, forbs and herbs included Stylosanthes scabra, Commelina benghalensis, Tridax procumbens, Calyptocarpus vialis, Gomphrena celosioides, Cynodon dactylon, Sida cordifolia, Capsella bursa-pastoris, Heliotropium amplexicaule, Erigeron bonariensis, Crassocephalum crepidioides, Bidens pilosa, Portulaca oleracea, Ageratum houstonianum, Oenothera drummondii, Plantago major, Sonchus oleraceus, Phyllanthus virgatus and Malvastrum coromandelianum
- No aquatic macrophyte weed species were recorded. The brackish to saline conditions of the channel limits the establishment of exotic aquatic macrophytes known from the region
- Species not recorded in this survey or in the previous survey in 2020 included Easter cassia (Senna pendula var. glabrata) and prickly pear (Opuntia stricta).

Sparse Sesbania cannabina was also observed on the banks of the drain.





Figure 3-2 Lucinda Drain 2021

#### 3.1.2 Bird Hide Wetlands

#### 3.1.2.1 Site Description

The bird hide survey site adjacent to Lucinda Drive comprises intertidal flats supporting sparse mangroves and saltmarsh and provides important habitat for migratory waders (refer to Figure 3-3).

#### 3.1.2.2 Weeds

The filled surrounds above tidal influence supported terrestrial grasslands which are regularly mown and comprised a range of exotic grasses and herbaceous environmental weeds widespread throughout the region. This included:

 Woody weeds: Baccharis halimifolia, Lantana camara (both Restricted Matters) and Solanum nigrum



- Exotic grasses: Chloris gayana, Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus, Cenchrus echinatus, Melinis repens, Sorghum halepense, Cynodon dactylon and Setaria sphacelata
- Vines: Ipomoea cairica and Macroptilium atropurpureum and Neonotonia wightii
- Herbs: Stylosanthes scabra, Tridax procumbens, Gomphrena celosioides, Erigeron bonariensis, Crassocephalum crepidioides, Sonchus oleraceus, Bidens pilosa, dirty Dora (Cyperus difformis), Capsella bursa-pastoris, Portulaca oleracea, Ageratum houstonianum, Oenothera drummondii, Cakile edentula and Macroptilium lathyroides.

Weed composition on the fill surrounding the wetlands has not greatly changed between survey episodes. Localised increases in the extent of the native *Sesbania cannabina*, a salinity tolerant species, was observed on the upper banks. Sesbania is an annual to perennial woody plant that can form dense thickets which die out and are re-established through the soil seedbank.

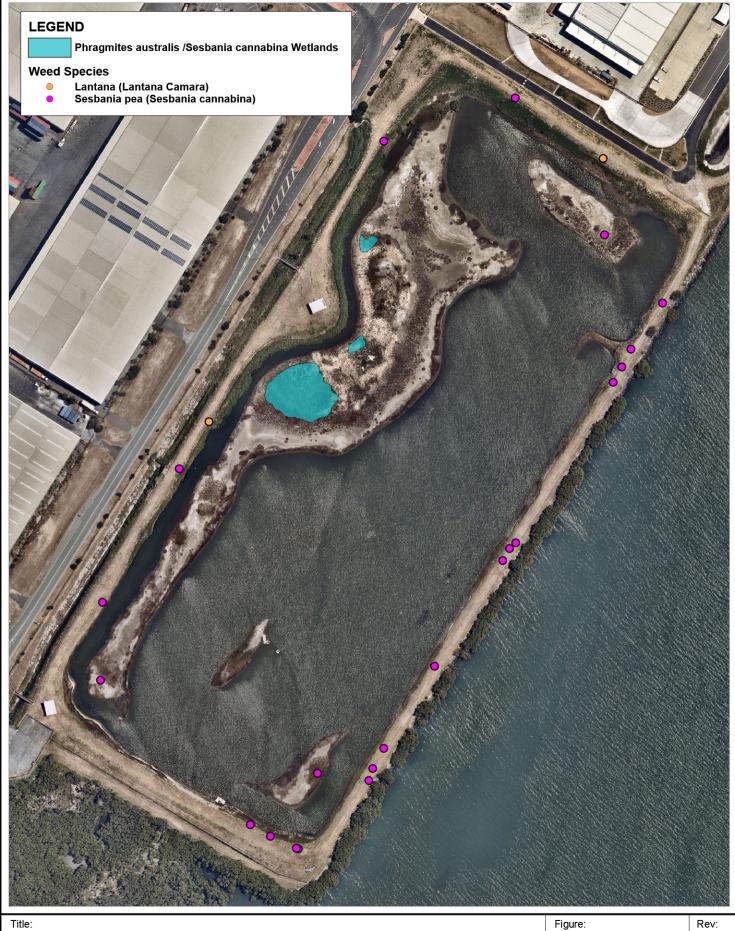
The saline conditions of the intertidal wetlands prevent the establishment of most introduced taxa, except for minor patches of *Baccharis halimifolia*. *Macroptilium atropurpureum* was also observed in samphire zones at the upper tidal limit. The native species *Phragmites australis* and *S. cannabina* are also expanding within the samphire and saltmarsh communities of the wetlands. Ongoing monitoring will assess whether these species are contributing to altered hydrological conditions that may favour the establishment of terrestrial weeds, such as *Chloris gayana*, *Schinus terebinthifolius* and *Baccharis halimifolia*. Such changes could reduce saltmarsh values for migratory waders.





Figure 3-3 Bird Hide 2021





Intertidal Wetlands at the Bird Hide 2021

3-4

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#### 3.1.3 Constructed Lake

#### 3.1.3.1 Site Description

The lake at the previous visitor centre is a highly modified, constructed wetland that provides habitat value for local wetland bird species (refer Figure 3-5).

#### 3.1.3.2 Weeds

There has been no significant change in weed species composition at the lake and observations made in 2021 were consistent with the previous survey as follows:

- No new weed species were recorded at the lake
- Restricted Plants recorded included *Baccharis halimifolia*, *Schinus terebinthifolius*, *Celtis sinense*, *Lantana montevidensis* and *Lantana camara*
- Exotic species recorded were dominated by environmental weeds well established across
  Brisbane including: Schinus terebinthifolius, Lantana camara, Ipomoea cairica, Ricinus
  communis, Macroptilium atropurpureum, Cenchrus echinatus, Megathyrsus maximus var.
  maximus, Solanum nigrum
- Dominant woody weeds included Schinus terebinthifolius, Baccharis halimifolia, Celtis sinense, Ricinus communis and Lantana camara
- Dominant exotic vines recorded included Ipomoea cairica, Passiflora foetida and Macroptilium atropurpureum
- The sparse groundcover was regularly mowed. The most widespread exotic groundcovers were Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus, Cenchrus echinatus, Melinis repens, Chloris gayana, Digitaria ciliaris, Cynodon dactylon, Paspalum spp., Setaria sphacelata and Cortaderia selloana
- Common exotic herbs and forbs included Ageratum houstonianum, Plantago lanceolata, Cyperus eragrostis, Bidens pilosa, coral berry (Rivina humilis), Crassocephalum crepidioides, Eclipta prostrata, inkweed (Phytolacca octandra), Capsella bursapastoris, Gomphrena celosioides, Heliotropium amplexicaule, Lantana montevidensis, Conyza bonariensis, Hypochaeris radicata, Oenothera drummondii, Tridax procumbens, Verbena bonariensis, Portulaca oleracea and Malvastrum coromandelianum
- Exotic aquatic macrophytes recorded in the shallow waters on the lakes edge included umbrella sedge (*Cyperus involucratus*) and *Ludwigia longifolia*
- No Fireweed (Senecio madagascariensis) was recorded.







Figure 3-5 Lake 2021

#### 3.1.4 Port Drive Wetlands

#### 3.1.4.1 Site Description

Port lands south of Boat Passage and east of Port Drive support extensive intertidal wetlands comprising mangroves and saltmarsh of high ecological value.

#### 3.1.4.2 Weeds

All weed species recorded at this site are widespread across the Port and are well-established in the Brisbane region and throughout coastal south-east Queensland. No new weed species were recorded.

Whilst mangroves are not prone to weed invasion due to regular tidal inundation, the saltmarsh-mangrove ecotone continues to support localised patches of *Schinus terebinthifolius* on higher ground with a groundcover of *Chloris gayana* and *Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus*.

As identified in previous monitoring surveys, the landward edge of the saltmarsh is still being regularly slashed for ground maintenance, resulting in removal of succulent saltmarsh species, alterations to local topography and promoting the spread of exotic grasses, particularly *Chloris gayana*, into saltmarsh habitat. There is also evidence of recreational vehicle disturbance across the site which is damaging saltmarsh and intertidal habitat and may disturb resident waders. *Phragmites australis* continues to form sparse localised patches at the upper tidal limit of the saltmarsh.







Figure 3-6 Port Drive Wetlands 2021

#### 3.1.5 Port Drive South

The western road corridor of Port Drive supports remnant *Melaleuca quinquenervia* wetlands in good condition. Weeds are restricted to the cleared edges and are dominated by *Schinus terebinthifolius*, *Lantana camara*, *Baccharis halimifolia*, *Solanum mauritianum*, *Schefflera actinophylla*, *Celtis sinense*, *Cinnamomum camphora*, *Baccharis halimifolia* and *Senna pendula* var. *glabrata*. The dominant weedy vines included *Macroptilium atropurpureum*, *Araujia sericifera*, *Cardiospermum grandiflorum*, *Passiflora* spp. and *Anredera cordifolia*. Sparse exotic groundcovers restricted to disturbed woodlands at the edge of the road reserve included *Melinis repens*, *Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus* and *Asparagus densiflorus*.

All weeds recorded adjacent to the wetlands are widespread in coastal wetlands of south-east Queensland, are restricted to the edge of the wetlands (typically within 10-20 m of the road reserve) and are not compromising the condition or value of these local high value Melaleuca habitats.





Figure 3-7 Port Drive South Wetlands 2021



#### 3.1.6 Fort Lytton Wetlands

Port lands at Fort Lytton adjacent to the Brisbane River support intertidal wetlands comprising mangroves and saltmarsh of high ecological value, including one of the largest remaining patches of saltmarsh near the mouth of the Brisbane River.

Less than 0.5ha of filled land within the saltmarsh of the survey site previously supported dense weeds (refer Figure 3-8). In late 2019, exotic flora within the fill site was cleared and the ground level was re-profiled (refer to Figure 3-8). Bollards were also installed to the north of the site which provides an effective barrier to protect saltmarsh from vehicle disturbance.

The site survey in March 2020 indicated there had been sparse saltmarsh restoration within the cleared site, with approximately 10% groundcover of regenerating *Phragmites australis* and *Sesuvium portulacastrum*. Minor patches of introduced grasses, mainly *Megathyrsus maximus* var. *maximus*, were also observed.

Natural saltmarsh recovery has continued with approximately 60% of the site currently supporting saltmarsh vegetation comprising *Sesuvium portulacastrum* (60% cover), *Sporobolus virginicus* (40% cover) and *Phragmites australis* (10% cover). Sparse *Avicennia marina* seedlings and *Enchylaena tomentos*a were also recorded. Approximately 20% of the restoration site supports bare mudflats which showed signs of wader use, and 20% of the site comprises seasonal ponding (wet at the time of survey). No weeds or *Sesbania cannabina* were recorded directly within the restoration site.

Disturbed terrestrial lands remain to the east of the restoration site comprising Leucaena leucocephala, Schinus terebinthifolius, Celtis sinense, Baccharis halimifolia, Phoenix sp., Lantana camara, Phytolacca octandra, Solanum nigrum, Gomphocarpus physocarpus, Opuntia stricta, Ricinus communis and Solanum mauritianum. Exotic groundcovers included Chloris gayana, Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus, Setaria sphacelata and Sorghum halepense. Other weeds recorded included Anredera cordifolia, Ageratum houstonianum, Passiflora foetida, Erigeron bonariensis, Capsella bursa-pastoris, Bidens pilosa, Cynodon dactylon, Gomphrena celosioides, Ipomoea cairica, Paspalum urvillei, Plantago lanceolata and Sida spp..



July 2019 Prior to Fill Removal and Ground Reprofiling



March 2020 Sparse Natural Recovery Of Saltmarsh



October 2019 after Site Works with Mangroves / Adjacent Saltmarsh Intact



May 2021 Ongoing Saltmarsh Restoration



Figure 3-8 Aerial Imagery of Fort Lytton Over Time





Figure 3-9 Saltmarsh Restoration

#### 3.1.7 Port West Wetlands

#### 3.1.7.1 Wetlands

#### 3.1.7.1.1 Site Description

Port West located west of Lytton Road approximately 4 km south-west of the Port supports a mosaic of mangroves and saltmarsh directly connected to the Brisbane River. Similar to other sites at the Port, the saltmarsh-mangrove ecotone and upper tidal limits which lie adjacent to industrial land uses are susceptible to disturbance and weed invasion.

#### 3.1.7.1.2 Weeds

The landward fringe of closed mangrove forest comprised evenly aged *Avicennia marina* over a dense native saltmarsh shrub layer comprised of *Sporobolus virginicus* and *Sesuvium portulacastrum*.



Weed composition was similar to previous monitoring surveys. Very sparse weed invasion was recorded under the dense mangrove canopy and comprised mainly isolated *Asparagus aethiopicus*, *Solanum seaforthianum*, *Baccharis halimifolia*, *Chloris gayana*, *Lantana camara*, *Rivina humilis*, *Opuntia stricta*, *Schinus terebinthifolius*, *Ricinus communis*, *Leucaena leucocephala*, *Senna pendula* var. *glabrata*, *Schefflera actinophylla* and *Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus* on elevated sites.

Locally elevated sites within saltmarsh landward of the mangrove fringe supported sparse *Schinus* terebinthifolius over a groundcover of *Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus* and *Chloris gayana*. More landward sites also supported *Senna pendula var. glabrata, Baccharis halimifolia, Ricinus communis, Opuntia stricta, Manihot grahamii, Tithonia diversifolia* and *Asparagus* spp..

All weed species recorded within the saltmarsh-mangrove interface at Port West are widespread across the Port and are well-established in the Brisbane region and throughout coastal south-east Queensland.



Figure 3-10 Port West Estuarine Habitat 2021



#### 3.2 Sites at Risk to New Weed Imports

#### 3.2.1 T1-3 Overflow Area and Car Precinct

#### 3.2.1.1 Site Description

The T1-3 and Car Precinct areas at the Port store imported vehicles and are potential vectors for newly introduced weed species entering the country via container ships. The survey area is heavily modified and cleared, and undergoes regular maintenance including mowing and spraying for weeds. The site includes constructed concrete drains, regularly maintained roadside lawn, landscaped garden beds and the maintained Queensland Rail freight line easement.

#### 3.2.1.2 Weeds

The following observations were made in the 2021 survey:

- No new weed species were recorded within the survey site
- Restricted Matters recorded included Lantana montevidensis
- Exotic species recorded were dominated by environmental weeds well established across
  Brisbane including: Ipomoea cairica, Macroptilium atropurpureum, Cenchrus echinatus,
  Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus, Solanum nigrum
- Dominant exotic vines recorded included Ipomoea cairica and Macroptilium atropurpureum
- The sparse groundcover was regularly mowed. The most widespread exotic groundcovers were Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus, Cenchrus echinatus, Melinis repens, Chloris gayana, Digitaria ciliaris, Cynodon dactylon, Paspalum spp. and Setaria sphacelata
- Common exotic herbs and forbs included Ageratum houstonianum, Bidens pilosa, Crassocephalum crepidioides, Eclipta prostrata, Capsella bursapastoris, Gomphrena celosioides, Heliotropium amplexicaule, Lantana montevidensis, Conyza bonariensis, Hypochaeris radicata, Oenothera drummondii, Tridax procumbens, Verbena bonariensis, Portulaca oleracea and Malvastrum coromandelianum
- There has been no significant change in weed species composition in the survey site.





Figure 3-11 T1-3, Car Precinct Waterway

#### 3.2.2 Port Gate Drain

#### 3.2.2.1 Site Description

Port Gate Drain lies to the south of Boat Passage and collects stormwater run-off from the adjacent hardstand areas and drains into, and partially receives, the tidal waters in Boat Passage. The banks of the drain are constructed of concrete, gravel and/or compacted earth, which limits extensive vegetation growth. The instream channel and banks were cleared of vegetation prior to the 2019 weed survey.

#### 3.2.2.2 Weeds

The following observations were made in the 2021 survey:

- No new weed species were recorded within or directly adjacent to Port Gate Drain;
- Restricted Matters recorded included: Baccharis halimifolia, Schinus terebinthifolius, Lantana camara, Celtis sinense and Cinnamomum camphora
- Exotic species recorded were dominated by environmental weeds well established across
  Brisbane including: Ipomoea cairica, Macroptilium atropurpureum, Chloris gayana, Megathyrsus
  maximus var. maximus, Bidens pilosa, Gomphocarpus physocarpus, Melinis repens, Solanum
  nigrum, Conyza bonariensis, Leucaena leucocephala, Passiflora foetida and Macroptilium
  lathyroides
- The dominant woody weeds recorded included Schinus terebinthifolius, Baccharis halimifolia and Lantana camara. Other woody weeds included Cinnamomum camphora, Celtis sinense, Gomphocarpus physocarpus, Leucaena leucocephala, Solanum chrysotrichum, Solanum nigrum and Psidium guajava



- The groundcover was numerically dominated by exotic grasses including Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus, Chloris gayana, Melinis repens, Sorghum halepense, Cenchrus echinatus and Paspalum spp. Other introduced grasses included Arundo donax, Cynodon dactylon and Andropogon virginicus
- Dominant exotic vines included *Ipomoea cairica, Macroptilium atropurpureum, Vigna* sp. and *Passiflora* spp
- Common exotic herbs and forbs included Bidens pilosa, Capsella sp., Emilia sonchifolia, Conyza bonariensis, Commelina benghalensis, Gomphrena celosioides, Sida cordifolia and tridax (Tridax procumbens)
- No major differences in weed composition have been observed from that of the 2020 survey.









Figure 3-12 Port Gate Drain 2021

#### 3.2.2.3 Port West Drain

#### 3.2.2.3.1 Site Description

Port West Drain is a narrow intertidal channel fringed with remnant mangroves comprised of *Avicennia marina*. The channel is bounded to the west by extensive mangrove forest (described above) and to the east by cleared land for industrial purposes.



#### 3.2.2.3.2 Weeds

The following observations were made in the 2021 survey:

- No new weed species were recorded within or directly adjacent to Port West Drain
- Restricted Matters recorded at the site included: Schinus terebinthifolius, Lantana camara, Asparagus aethiopicus, A. africanus, Anredera cordifolia and Baccharis halimifolia
- Exotic species recorded included Ipomoea cairica, Macroptilium atropurpureum, Chloris gayana, Megathyrsus maximus var. maximus, Bidens pilosa, Gomphocarpus physocarpus, Melinis repens, Solanum nigrum, Conyza bonariensis, Macroptilium lathyroides, Asparagus aethiopicus and Asparagus africanus. These environmental weeds are well established across Brisbane
- The dominant woody weeds recorded included Schinus terebinthifolius and Lantana camara.
   Other woody weeds included Gomphocarpus physocarpus, Macroptilium lathyroides, Rivina humilis, Senna pendula var. glabrata, Phytolacca octandra and Solanum nigrum
- The groundcover was numerically dominated by the exotic grasses *Megathyrsus maximus* var. *maximus*, *Chloris gayana*, *Melinis repens*, *Sorghum halepense* and *Paspalum urvillei*
- Dominant exotic vines included *Ipomoea cairica, Macroptilium atropurpureum, Neonotonia wightii,* white passionflower (*Passiflora subpeltata*) and stinking passionflower (*Passiflora foetida*)
- Common exotic herbs and forbs included Bidens pilosa, Crotalaria pallida, Gomphrena celosioides, Sida cordifolia, Verbena bonariensis, Verbena litoralis, Sonchus oleraceus and Asclepias curassavica
- No aquatic macrophyte weed species were recorded and none are likely to occur given the brackish to saline conditions of the waterway.





Figure 3-13 Port West Drain 2021

#### 3.3 Weed Species Significance

The distribution of weed species identified as significant under each of the applicable governing bodies and Acts is shown in Figure 3-14. This mapping shows that Weeds of National Significance were relatively sparse but were distributed across the majority of study sites. Restricted invasive plants (under the Queensland Biosecurity Act) and environmental weeds (identified by the Brisbane City Council) are more widespread across the Port in terms of distribution and frequency.









3-14

#### **LEGEND**

- WONS (DAWE)
- Restricted Invasive Plants QLD Biosecurity Act (DAWE)

#### **Biosecurity Act**

- High Risk
- Moderate Risk
- Low Risk
- Very Low Risk
- Little Risk
- **Natural Assets Local Law**

### Weed Species Significance Distribution 2021

BMT endeavours to ensure that the information provided in this map is correct at the time of publication. BMT does not warrant,





guarantee or make representations regarding the currency and accuracy of information contained in this map.

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#### 4 Discussion

The PBPL weed monitoring program aims to detect the introduction and spread of new weed species imported to the Port and to monitor priority weed species within high value natural assets, including habitat for migratory waders and locally significant wetlands. In summary:

- Weed composition and distribution at the Port has remained relatively stable over the monitoring period.
- All the weed species recorded in the survey sites at the Port are widespread in degraded coastal habitats of south-east Queensland and no new weed species were recorded during the survey.
- No newly imported weeds were recorded at the Port in 2021.
- The sites considered most at risk to weed imports are the imported vehicle storage areas and downstream environments. These sites provide poor habitat for weeds (well maintained and/or saline affected).
- Localised patches of native Phragmites australis and Sesbania cannabina may cause impacts to saltmarsh habitat values, particularly at the bird hide. Ongoing monitoring will assess whether these species are contributing to altered hydrological conditions that may favour the establishment of terrestrial weeds which could reduce saltmarsh values for migratory waders.
- Regular monitoring will continue to be essential to manage the potential risk associated with the import of new weed species to the Port.
- Restoration works at Fort Lytton have resulted in an increase in saltmarsh habitat in previously
  disturbed and degraded habitats at this site. Filled sites within and directly adjacent to intertidal
  wetlands at Port Drive may have similar restoration potential. It is recommended that recreational
  and service vehicles are prevented from accessing intertidal habitats within this site to protect
  saltmarsh and wader habitat values



#### 5 References

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# Appendix A Weeds of National Significance (Department of Agriculture Water and the Environment)

Common Name	Scientific Name		
African boxthorn	Lycium ferocissimum		
Alligator weed	Alternanthera philoxeroides		
Asparagus fern	Asparagus aethiopicus		
Asparagus fern	Asparagus scandens		
Athel pine	Tamarix aphylla		
Bitou bush, boneseed	Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera and rotundata		
Blackberry	Rubus fruticosus agg.		
Bridal creeper	Asparagus asparagoides		
Bridal veil creeper	Asparagus declinatus		
Broom	Cytisus scoparius		
Cabomba	Cabomba caroliniana		
Cats claw vine	Dolichandra unguis-cati		
Chilean needle grass	Nassella neesiana		
Climbing asparagus	Asparagus africanus		
Climbing asparagus fern	Asparagus plumosus		
Cotton-leaved physic-nut	Jatropha gossypifolia		
Delta arrowhead	Sagittaria platyphylla		
Fireweed	Senecio madagascariensis		
Flax-leaved broom	Genista linifolia		
Gamba grass	Andropogon gayanus		
Gorse	Ulex europaeus		
Hymenachne	Hymenachne amplexicaulis		
	Lantana camara		
Mesquite	Prosopis spp.		
Maderia vine	Anredera cordifolia		
Mimosa	Mimosa pigra		
Montpellier broom	Genista monspessulana		
Parkinsonia	Parkinsonia aculeata		
Parthenium weed	Parthenium hysterophorus		
Pond apple	Annona glabra		
Prickly acacia	Vachellia nilotica ssp. indica		
Prickly pear	Austrocylindropuntia spp.		
Prickly pear	Cylindropuntia spp.		
Prickly pear	Opuntia spp.		



## Weeds of National Significance (Department of Agriculture Water and the Environment)

Common Name	Scientific Name
Rubber vine	Cryptostegia grandiflora
Salvinia	Salvinia molesta
Serrated tussock	Nassella trichotoma
Silver nightshade	Solanum elaeagnifolium
Water hyacinth	Eichhornia crassipes
Willows except weeping willows, pussy willow and sterile pussy willow	Salix spp. except S. babylonica, S. X calodendron and S. X reichardtiji



# Appendix B Restricted Invasive Plants under the Queensland Biosecurity Act (Department of Agriculture and Fisheries)

Restricted Matter	Category
African boxthorn (Lycium ferocissimum)	3
African fountain grass (Cenchrus setaceum)	3
African tulip tree (Spathodea campanulata)	3
alligator weed (Alternanthera philoxeroides)	3
annual ragweed (Ambrosia artemisiifolia)	3
asparagus fern (Asparagus aethiopicus, A. africanus and A. plumosus)	3
asparagus fern (Asparagus scandens)	3
athel pine (Tamarix aphylla)	3
badhara bush (Gmelina elliptica)	3
balloon vine (Cardiospermum grandiflorum)	3
belly-ache bush (Jatropha gossypiifolia and hybrids)	3
bitou bush (Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. rotundifolia)	2,3,4,5
blackberry (Rubus anglocandicans, Rubus fruticosus aggregate)	3
boneseed (Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. monilifera)	2,3,4,5
bridal creeper (Asparagus asparagoides)	2,3,4,5
bridal veil (Asparagus declinatus)	3
broad-leaved pepper tree (Schinus terebinthifolius)	3
cabomba (Cabomba caroliniana)	3
camphor laurel (Cinnamomum camphora)	3
candyleaf (Stevia ovata)	3
cane cactus (Austrocylindropuntia cylindrica)	3
cat's claw creeper (Dolichandra unguis-cati)	3
Chilean needle grass (Nassella neesiana)	3
chinee apple (Ziziphus mauritiana)	3
Chinese celtis (Celtis sinensis)	3
cholla cacti with the following names—	
coral cactus (Cylindropuntia fulgida)	3
devil's rope pear ( <i>C. imbricata</i> )	3
Hudson pear (Cylindropuntia rosea and C. tunicata)	2,3,4,5
• jumping cholla ( <i>C. prolifera</i> )	2,3,4,5
snake cactus (C. spinosior)	3
Dutchman's pipe (Aristolochia spp. other than native species)	3
elephant ear vine (Argyreia nervosa)	3
Eve's pin cactus (Austrocylindropuntia subulata)	3



## Restricted Invasive Plants under the Queensland Biosecurity Act (Department of Agriculture and Fisheries)

Restricted Matter	Category
fireweed (Senecio madagascariensis)	3
flax-leaf broom (Genista linifolia)	3
gamba grass (Andropogon gayanus)	3
giant sensitive plant (Mimosa diplotricha var. diplotricha)	3
gorse (Ulex europaeus)	3
groundsel bush (Baccharis halimifolia)	3
harrisia cactus (Harrisia martinii, H. tortuosa and H. pomanensis syn. Cereus pomanensis)	3
harungana (Harungana madagascariensis)	3
honey locust (Gleditsia triacanthos including cultivars and varieties)	3
hygrophila (Hygrophila costata)	3
hymenachne or olive hymenachne (Hymenachne amplexicaulis and hybrids)	3
Koster's curse (Clidemia hirta)	2,3,4,5
kudzu ( <i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>Iobata</i> syn. <i>P. Iobata</i> , <i>P. triloba</i> other than in the Torres Strait Islands)	3
lantanas—	
creeping lantana (Lantana montevidensis)	3
lantana, common lantana (Lantana camara)	3
limnocharis, yellow burrhead (Limnocharis flava)	2,3,4,5
Madeira vine (Anredera cordifolia)	3
Madras thorn (Pithecellobium dulce)	2,3,4,5
mesquites—	
honey mesquite ( <i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> )	3
mesquite or algarroba ( <i>Prosopis pallida</i> )	3
Quilpie mesquite ( <i>Prosopis velutina</i> )	3
Mexican bean tree (Cecropia pachystachya, C. palmata and C. peltata)	2,3,4,5
Mexican feather grass (Nassella tenuissima)	2,3,4,5
miconia with the following names—	
Miconia calvescens	2,3,4,5
M. cionotricha	2,3,4,5
M. nervosa	2,3,4,5
M. racemosa	2,3,4,5
mikania vine (Mikania micrantha)	2,3,4,5
mimosa pigra ( <i>Mimosa pigra</i> )	2,3,4,5
Montpellier broom (Genista monspessulana)	3
mother of millions (Bryophyllum delagoense syn. B. tubiflorum, Kalanchoe delagoensis)	3
mother of millions hybrid (Bryophyllum x houghtonii)	3
ornamental gingers—	



## Restricted Invasive Plants under the Queensland Biosecurity Act (Department of Agriculture and Fisheries)

Restricted Matter	Category
Kahili ginger (Hedychium gardnerianum)	3
white ginger ( <i>H. coronarium</i> )	3
yellow ginger ( <i>H. flavescens</i> )	3
parkinsonia (Parkinsonia aculeata)	3
parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorus)	3
pond apple (Annona glabra)	3
prickly acacia (Vachellia nilotica)	3
prickly pears—	
bunny ears ( <i>Opuntia microdasys</i> )	2,3,4,5
common pest pear, spiny pest pear (O. stricta syn. O. inermis)	3
drooping tree pear (O. monacantha syn. O. vulgaris)	3
prickly pear (O. elata)	2,3,4,5
• tiger pear (O. aurantiaca)	3
velvety tree pear (O. tomentosa)	3
Westwood pear (O. streptacantha)	3
privets—	
broad-leaf privet, tree privet (Ligustrum lucidum)	3
small-leaf privet, Chinese privet (L. sinense)	3
rat's tail grasses—	
American rat's tail grass (Sporobolus jacquemontii)	3
giant Parramatta grass (S. fertilis)	3
• giant rat's tail grass (S. pyramidalis and S. natalensis)	3
rubber vines—	
ornamental rubber vine (Cryptostegia madagascariensis)	3
rubber vine (C. grandiflora)	3
sagittaria (Sagittaria platyphylla)	3
salvinia (Salvinia molesta)	3
Scotch broom (Cytisus scoparius)	3
Senegal tea (Gymnocoronis spilanthoides)	3
Siam weed with the following names—	
Chromolaena odorata	3
C. squalida	3
sicklepods—	
foetid cassia (Senna tora)	3
hairy cassia (S. hirsuta)	3
sicklepod (S. obtusifolia)	3
silver-leaf nightshade (Solanum elaeagnifolium)	3
Singapore daisy (Sphagneticola trilobata syn. Wedelia trilobata)	3



## Restricted Invasive Plants under the Queensland Biosecurity Act (Department of Agriculture and Fisheries)

Restricted Matter	Category
telegraph weed (Heterotheca grandiflora)	3
thunbergia (Thunbergia grandiflora syn. T. laurifolia)	3
tobacco weed (Elephantopus mollis)	3
water hyacinth (Eichhornia crassipes)	3
water lettuce (Pistia stratiotes)	3
water mimosa (Neptunia oleracea and N. Plena)	2,3,4,5
willows (all Salix spp. other than S. babylonica, S. x calodendron and S. x reichardtii)	3
yellow bells (Tecoma stans)	3
yellow oleander, Captain Cook tree (Cascabela thevetia syn. Thevetia peruviana)	3



Species included in the Biosecurity Act – prioritised for the Brisbane LGA

Risk	Common Name	Scientific Name
Significant	Alligator weed	Altemanthera philoxeroides
	Cabomba	Cabomba caroliniana
	Horsetails	Equisetum spp.
High	Broad-leaved pepper tree	Schinus terebinthifolius
	Cat's claw creeper	Dolichandra unguis-cati
	Hymenachne	Hymenachne amplexicaulis
	Kudzu	Pueraria lobate
	Parthenium	Parthenium hysterophorus
	Rat's tail grass/giant rat's tail grass	Sporobolus pyramidalis and S.natalensis
	Salvinia	Salvinia molesta
	Senegal tea	Gymnocoronis spilanthoides
	Water hyacinth	Eichhornia crassipes
	Water lettuce	Pistia stratiotes
	Water mimosa	Neptunia oleracea (and N. plena)
Moderate	Asparagus ferns	Asparagus aethiopicus 'Sprengeri' A. africanus
	Balloon vine	Cardiospermum grandiflorum
	Bridal creeper	Asparagus asparagoides
	Broadleaf privet	Ligustrum lucidum
	Giant Parramatta grass/rat's tail grasses/Parramatta grass	Sporobolus fertilis, S. africanus, S. jacquemontii
	Groundsel bush	Baccharis halimifolia
	Hygrophila/glush weed	Hygrophila costata
	Kahili ginger	Hedychium gardnerianum
	Madeira vine	Anredera cordifolia
	Willows	Salix spp. other than S. babylonica, S. x calodendron, S. xreichardtii and S. chilensis; syn. S. humboldtiana = pencil willow (Chilean willow)
Low	Annual ragweed	Ambrosia artemisiifolia
	Bitou bush	Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. rotundata
	Boneseed	Chrysanthemoides monilifera ssp. monilifera
	Camphor laurel	Cinnamomum camphora
	Chinese celtis	Celtis sinensis
	Dutchman's pipe	Aristolochia elegans
	Fireweed	Senecio madagascariensis



Risk	Common Name	Scientific Name
	Honey locust	Gleditsia triacanthos including cultivars and varieties
	Mexican feather grass	Nassella tenuissima
	Rubber vine	Cryptostegia grandiflora
	Tropical soda apple	Solanum viarum
	Yellow ginger	Hedychium flavescens
Very low	African fountain grass	Pennisetum setaceum (Cenchrus setaceus)
	African tulip tree	Spathodea campanulata
	Athel pine	Tamarix aphylla
	Belly-ache bush/cotton leaf/physic nut	Jatropha gossypiifolia
	Bitterweed	Helenium amarum
	Blackberry	Rubus anglocandicans, Rubus fruticosus agg.
Very low	Chilean needle grass	Nasella neesiana
Very low	Elephant ear vine	Philodendron spp. Argyreia nervosa
	Harrisia cactus	Harrisia martinii
	Lantana (all species)	Lantana spp.
	Mexican bean tree	Cecropia. palmata and C. peltata
	Miconia	Miconia calvescens, M. racemosa and M. nervosa
	Mother of millions hybrid	Bryophyllum × houghtonii
	Pond apple	Annona glabra
	Prickly pear/ tiger pear/ drooping tree pear/westwood pear/velvety tree pear	Opuntia spp. (O. elata and O. microdasys – cat.2,3,4,5)
	Sagittaria	Sagittaria platyphylla
	Singapore daisy	Sphagneticola trilobata
	Small-leaved privet/ Chinese privet	Ligustrum sinense
	Telegraph weed	Heterotheca grandiflora
	Yellow bells	Tecoma stans
	Yellow oleander/Captain Cook tree	Cascabela thevetia syn. Thevetia peruviana

#### Species in the Biosecurity Act - but assessed as having little impact in the Brisbane LGA

Common Name	Species Name
Acacias non-indigenous to Australia	Acacia spp. other than Acacia nilotica and Acacia farnesiana
African boxthorn	Lycium ferocissimum
Anchored water hyacinth	Eichhornia azurea
Annual thunbergia	Thunbergia annua
Badhara bush	Gmelina elliptica
Candleberry myrtle/candleberry myrth	Myrica faya



Common Name	Species Name
Candyleaf	Stevia ovata
Chinee apple	Ziziphus mauritiana
Cholla cactus/coral cactus/devil's rope pear/snake cactus/Hudson pear	Cylindropuntia spp. and their hybrids, other than C. spinosior, C. fulgida and C. imbricata
Christ's thorn	Ziziphus spina-christi
Eurasian water milfoil	Myriophyllum spicatum
Floating water chestnuts	Trapa spp.
Gamba grass	Andropogon gayanus
Giant sensitive plant	Mimosa diplotricha (prev. Mimosa invisa)
Giant sensitive tree	Mimosa pigra
Gorse	Ulex europaeus
Harungana	Harungana madagascariensis
Kochia	Kochia scoparia syn Bassia scoparia
Koster's curse	Clidemia hirta
Lagarosiphon	Lagarosiphon major
Laurel clock vine, fragrant thunbergia	Thunbergia laurifolia, (syn grandiflora)
Limnocharis/yellow burrhead	Limnocharis flava
Madras thorn	Pithecellobium dulce
Mesquites	All Prosopis spp. and hybrids other than Prosopis glandulosa, P. pallida and P. velutina
Mikania vine	Mikania spp.
Parkinsonia	Parkinsonia aculeata
Peruvian primrose	Ludwigia peruviana
Prickly acacia	Acacia nilotica syn(Vachellia nilotica)
Red sesbania	Sesbania punicea
Serrated tussock	Nassella trichotoma
Sicklepod/hairy cassia/foetid cassia	Senna obtusifolia, S. hirsuta and S. tora and obtusifolia
Spiked pepper	Piper aduncum
Tobacco weed	Elephantopus mollis
Water soldiers	Stratiotes aloides
White ginger	Hedychium coronarium
Witch weeds	Striga spp. other than native species

#### Species NOT in the Biosecurity Act but that are regulated under the Natural Assets Local Law

Common Name	Scientific Name
Agave	Agave spp.
Amazon frogbit	Limnobium laevigatum



Common Name	Scientific Name
Anzac tree daisy	Montanoa hibiscifolia
Arrowhead vine	Syngonium spp.
Arsenic bush	Senna septemtrionalis
Arum lily	Zantedeschia aethiopica
Bahia grass	Paspalum notatum
Balsam (busy Lizzie)	Impatiens spp.
Bamboos	Phyllostachys aurea and nigra
Black eyed Susan	Thunbergia alata
Blackberry nightshade	Solanum nigrum
Blade apple, lemon vine, Barbados gooseberry	Pereskia aculeata
Blue trumpet vine	Thunbergia grandiflora
Brazilian nightshade	Solanum seaforthianum
Cadaga or cadaghi	Corymbia torelliana
Cape ivy	Senecio angulatus
Cape spinach	Emex australis
Capeweed	Arctotheca calendula
Castor oil plant	Ricinus communis
Chinese tallow	Triadica sebifera
Cockspur coral tree	Erythrina crista-galli
Cocos palm or Queen palm	Syagrus romanzoffiana
Common Indian hawthorn	Rhaphiolepis indica
Condamine couch/lippia	Phyla canescens
Coral berry or Indian currant	Ardisia crenata, Rivina humilis or Symphoricarpos orbiculatus
Coral creeper	Barleria repens
Corky passion vine	Passiflora suberosa
Cotoneaster	Cotoneaster lacteus
Creeping lantana	Lantana montevidensis
Crofton weed	Eupatorium adenophorum
Dense water weed	Egeria densa
Devil's fig	Solanum torvum
Duranta	Duranta erecta syn. D. repens and D. plumieri
Dyschoriste	Dyschoriste depressa
Easter cassia	Senna pendula var. glabrata
Elephant grass	Pennisetum purpureum
Feathertop Rhodes grass	Chloris virgata
Fire flag	Thalia geniculata



Common Name	Scientific Name
Fishbone fern	Nephrolepis cordifolia
Foxglove	Digitalis purpurea
Giant devil's fig	Solanum hispidum
Giant reed	Arundo donax
Glory lily	Gloriosa superba
Glycine	Neonotonia wightii
Golden chain tree	Laburnum anagyroides
Golden rain tree	Koelreuteria elegans ssp. formosana
Golden rod	Solidago altissima
Green cestrum	Cestrum parqui
Guinea grass	Megathyrsus maximus
Hemlock	Conium maculatum
Himalayan ash	Fraxinus griffithii
Hiptage	Hiptage benghalensis
Indian rubber tree	Ficus elastica
Ivy gourd	Coccinia grandis
Jacaranda	Jacaranda mimosifolia
Japanese/Mexican sunflower	Tithonia diversifolia, T.sp
Japanese honeysuckle	Lonicera japonica
Johnson grass	Sorghum halepense
Khaki weed	Alternanthera pungens
Kidney leaf mud plantain	Heteranthera reniformis
Leucaena	Leucaena leucocephala (all spp.)
Little bluestem	Schizachyrium microstachyum
Live plant, Resurrection plant	Bryophyllum pinnatum
Mile a minute	Ipomoea cairica
Mist flower	Ageratina riparia
Mock orange	Murraya paniculata
Molasses grass	Melinis minutiflora
Monkey's comb	Pithecoctenium crucigerum
Morning glory	Ipomoea indica
Mossman river grass	Cenchrus echinatus
Mother-in-law's tongue	Sansevieria trifasciata
Needle burr or spiny amaranth	Amaranthus spinosus
Ochna	Ochna serrulata
Oleander	Nerium oleander
Pampas grass	Cortaderia selloana



Common Name	Scientific Name
Paper mulberry	Broussonetia papyrifera
Para grass	Urochloa mutica
Parrot feather	Myriophyllum aquaticum
Perennial horse gram	Macrotyloma axillare
Perennial ragweed	Ambrosia psilostachya
Pongamia tree	Millettia pinnata
Praxelis	Praxelis clematidea
Prickly poppy or Mexican poppy	Argemone ochroleuca
Purple succulent	Callisia fragrans
Red-head cotton bush	Asclepias curassavica
Rhodes grass	Chloris gayana
Rhus	Toxicodendron succedaneum
Ruellia	Ruellia tweediana
Shoebutton ardisia	Ardisia elliptica
Sicklebush	Dichrostachys cinerea
Signal grass	Urochloa decumbens
Silver leaf desmodium or velcro plant	Desmodium uncinatum
Siratro	Macroptilium atropurpureum
Slash pine	Pinus elliotii
South African pigeon grass	Setaria sphacelata
Stinking roger	Tagetes minuta
Taro	Colocasia esculenta
Thorn apples	Datura spp
Tipuana	Tipuana tipu
Tropical pickeral weed	Pontederia rotundifolia
Umbrella tree	Schefflera actinophylla
Wandering Jew	Tradescantia fluminensis, T. pallida and T. spathacea
Water lily	Nymphaea caerulea ssp. zanzibarensis
Whiskey grass	Andropogon virginicus
White moth plant	Araujia sericifera and A. hortorum
White mulberry	Morus alba
Wait-a while	Caesalpinia decapetala
Wild aster	Aster subulatus
Wild tobacco tree	Solanum mauritianum
Zebrina	Tradescantia zebrina



## BMT has a proven record in addressing today's engineering and environmental issues.

Our dedication to developing innovative approaches and solutions enhances our ability to meet our client's most challenging needs.



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