



WANTED

VICTORIAN TEATREE

Leptospermum laevigatum

Glossary

Elliptical
Oval in shape.

For More Information

Contact

Eastern Hills Catchment
Management Program
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Shire of Mundaring Bush-
care Co-ordinator
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Shire of Kalamunda
Bushcare Co-ordinator
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Introduction

Other common names include Victorian Myrtle and Coastal Teatree. The species was introduced as a garden plant and is now a major bushland weed.

It is spreading rapidly along road verges, swamps, lakes, dampland and riverine edges, and invading coastal heath and woodlands on sandy and lateritic soils.

Ironically, it is still sold in nurseries.

Origin

Eastern Australia

Status

Priority weed species for the Shire of Kalamunda and the Shire of Mundaring.

Lifeform

Shrub/tree

Description

Is a large shrub/small tree up to 6 m tall.

Leaves: Gray-green elliptical; small; opposite; leathery; 15-30 cm long.

Flowers/Seedheads: White; This plant is killed by fire.
small; 5 petals.

Reproduction & Dispersal

It is a prolific seeder and the seeds are dispersed by wind.

Growing Habit

Forms dense colonies.

Distribution

Jurien Bay - Albany; populations in Esperance.

Growing Season

Spring; following flowering.

Flowering Season

After 4 years: April/June - October

Fruits

Domed; woody; contains seeds. Native species of *Leptospermum* differ in having 3-5 celled fruits.

Effect on Ecosystem

The roots produce chemicals that reduce the growth of companion plants.

Control

Manual Removal

Hand pull seedlings in the first year or two (older seedlings tend to break off and regrow), fell mature plants. Slash, fell or bulldoze thickets, then burn when dry. Grazing will control seedlings.

Chemical Treatment

Use cut-paint method on mature plants when actively growing with glyphosate.

Remove tops that may have seeds still attached.

Use Basal bark spray method. Spray regrowth.

Plant shrub and tree species 2 years after the last spray to increase levels of shade.

Please see 'Herbicides and Pesticides' factsheet for more information about spraying chemicals.

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