

Giant Devil's Fig

(*Solanum chrysotrichum*)

Originating in Central America, a Giant Devil's Fig was wrongly planted in a backyard at Tunttable Falls over 35 years ago as a possible interesting edible fruit. From there it has multiplied and been spread by birds and bats to be a serious weed threat on the North Coast.



- Weed Class:** Environmental weed – awaiting declaration.
- Description:** Giant Devil's Fig is an erect perennial shrub up to 4m high.
- Leaves:** Large leaves with 7-13 lobes divide halfway up.
- Flowers:** Star shaped and hairy on the outer surface. Autumn through to Spring.
- Fruit:** Globular fruit, yellow to yellow-orange when mature.
- Dispersal:** Spread by birds and bats.
- Habitat:** Naturalising in disturbed habitats, creek banks, forests and riparian areas – a serious threat to native vegetation.

Giant Devil's Fig (*Solanum chrysotrichum*)

Control options

Mechanical control: Young seedlings can be manually removed. Take care and wear gloves due to thorns. Larger plants can be cut down and the roots grubbed out.

Chemical control: Use a product containing the following active constituent that is registered for use in NSW to control Giant Devil's Fig in the particular situation in which you need to use chemical control, e.g. in non-crop areas. Consult APVMA PERMIT 9907 for detailed information.

GLYPHOSATE 360g/L Various trade names.
Spot-spray (seedlings); or stem injection/cut stump applicator – lop off stem down low and apply herbicide.

PICLORAM 45g/L Vigilant®.
Cut stump application – apply 3-5mm layer on cut surface.



Other similar weeds in the Solanum family:



Wild Tobacco
(*Solanum mauritianum*)



Devil's Apple
(*Solanum capsicoides*)



Tropical Soda Apple
(*Solanum viarum*)

More information:

- www.northcoastweeds.org.au
- www.weeds.org.au
- www.clarence.nsw.gov.au
- www.coffsharbour.nsw.gov.au
- www.bellingen.nsw.gov.au
- www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au
- www.clarence.nsw.gov.au
- www.fnwc.nsw.gov.au

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