

Herbicide	Product name example	Herbicide groups	Application rate	Additives	Method of application	Timing	Comments	Legal Status
Glyphosate biactive (360 g/kg)	Roundup Biactive®	M	1–1.3 L/100 L	None if using within or near waterways. Penetrant if using away from waterways.	Spot Spray: Do not add surfactants if using near aquatic areas.	Sept–Dec Prior to pod formation	Suitable for use near waterways — refer to label. Non selective, avoid contact with desirable plants.	Registered
Glyphosate (450 g/kg)	Roundup®	M	Undiluted to 1:5	None	Cut stump: note 1:1 provides the best viscosity for sponge application	Anytime		PER 13371 (exp.2017)
Glyphosate (450 g/L) + Metsulfuron-methyl (600 g/L)	Roundup® + Brush-off®	M,B	200 ml + 10 g/100 L	Penetrant	Spot spray	Sept–Dec Prior to pod formation	Non selective, avoid contact with desirable plants. Soil active herbicide, may damage desirable vegetation.	PER 13371 (exp.2017)
Triclopyr (300 g/L) + Picloram (100g/L)	Grazon DS®	I	250 ml/100 L	Penetrant	Spot spray	Sept–Dec Prior to pod formation	Use higher rate of 350 ml/100 L if spraying in autumn or winter.	Registered
Triclopyr (600 g/L)	Garlon®	I	1 L/30 L diesel	None	Cut stump	Any time	Diesel can be replaced with water for ease of application. Suitable for nature reserves and other native vegetation, roadsides, urban open space and forests.	PER 12932 (exp.2016)
Triclopyr (600 g/L)	Garlon®	I	170 ml/100 L	Penetrant	Spot spray	Sept–Dec Prior to pod formation	Suitable for nature reserves and other native vegetation, roadsides, urban open space and forests.	PER 12932 (exp.2016)

Montpellier broom, *Genista monspessulana*

FACT SHEET | JUNE 2015



What is it?

Montpellier (or cape) broom, *Genista monspessulana* is an evergreen shrub that grows to 3 m high.

What does it look like?

Stem

Plants usually have one branched woody stem that is ridged and softly hairy.

Leaves

The leaves have short stalks and are divided into three relatively broad leaflets (5–30 mm long). The upper surface of the leaflets is bright green and slightly hairy, while the underside has a thicker coating of hair.

Flowers

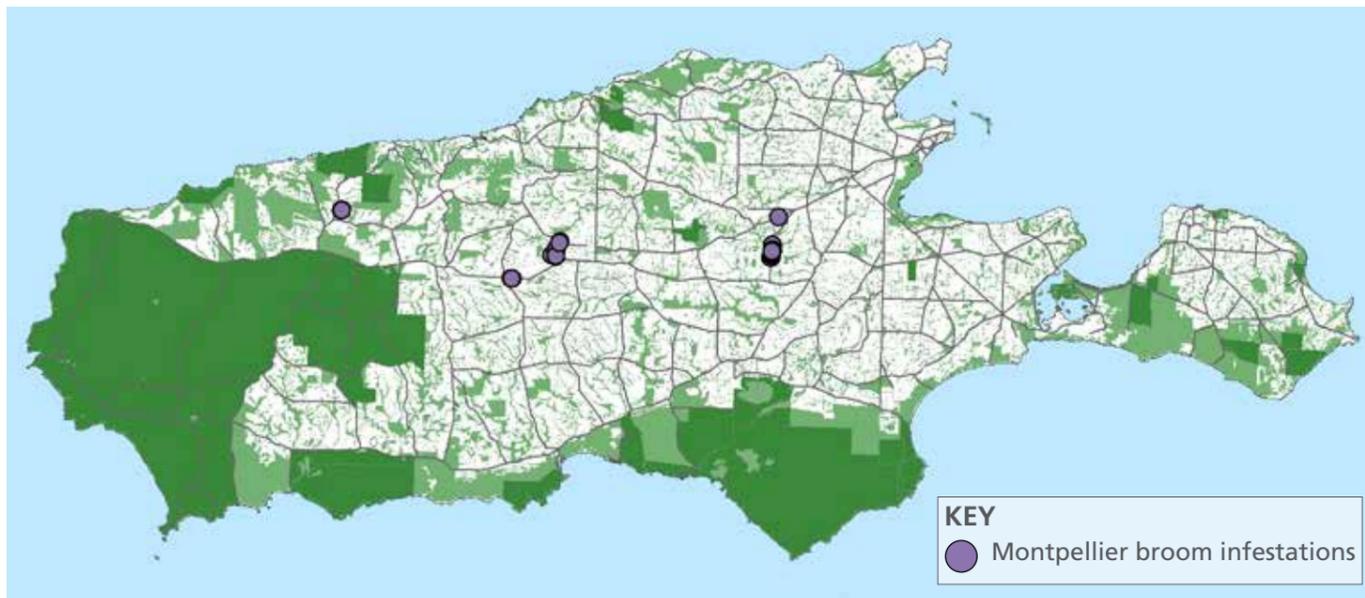
Flowers are bright yellow, pea-shaped (8–12 mm long) and occur singly or in clusters at leaf axils or branch tips. Flowering occurs from late winter with a second flowering in late summer in ideal conditions.

Seeds

Seed pods are 25 mm long, flat, brown and hairy. The seed pods explode open in warm weather dispersing seed several metres.

Above: Montpellier broom bush. Below: Montpellier broom flower.





Kangaroo Island distribution of Montpellier broom

History

Montpellier broom is native to the Mediterranean region and northern Africa, and has naturalised in many parts of the world. Brooms have invaded over 1 million hectares across southern Australia.

There are localised populations of Montpellier broom on Kangaroo Island. Scotch and flax-leaf broom have not been detected on Kangaroo Island.

Where is it found?

Montpellier broom prefers at least 500 mm of rainfall and establishes in all soil types. Known infestations are generally found in the higher rainfall parts of KI, west of Parndana.

Natural Resources Kangaroo Island is currently gathering distribution information so please report any suspected infestations using the contact details on the adjacent page.

Why is it a problem?

Montpellier broom invades native vegetation, grazing land and plantation forestry. It has been recognised as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) along with two other species of broom, Scotch (or English) broom, *Cytisus scoparius* and flax-leaf broom, *Genista linifolia*.

Brooms are fast growing legume shrubs that can fix nitrogen in the soil which enable it to outcompete other plants and become dominant.

Brooms produce masses of hard, very long-lived seeds. Disturbances such as fire and clearing provide ideal conditions for regeneration.

Long term impacts of broom infestations on native vegetation include:

- » changes in vegetation structure
- » increased fire risk
- » loss of wildlife habitat and increased habitat for invasive species.

Impacts on grazing land and plantations include:

- » loss of productive land
- » restricting access including to water and for fire management
- » It can prevent establishment of timber plantations and increase plantation fire risk.

How is it spread?

Montpellier broom was originally distributed in Australia as a garden and hedging plant. Now it is mainly spread through seed movement on earthmoving equipment, farm machinery and as a seed contaminant in agricultural and forestry products. Seed is spread locally when seed pods explode during hot weather.

How do we control it?

Montpellier broom management in the region will focus on:

- » preventing new infestations from establishing by controlling plants before seed set
- » locating infestations while they're flowering
- » treating outlier plants first, working inwards towards the infestation centre
- » undertaking follow-up control, as disturbance created by control actions will trigger seedling germination.

Control options are:

Mechanical removal

- » hand pulling individual seedlings
- » mulching larger infestations (with a slasher, hydro-axe or similar) which allows for easier follow up control. Avoid mulching when seed pods are mature.

Fire

- » Fire can reduce seed banks and trigger mass germinations allowing for more effective follow-up control.
- » Fire shouldn't be used if follow-up control is not planned. Consult with CFS, the Native

Vegetation Council and Kangaroo Island Council before burning.

Chemical control

- » Cut and paint method: Cut stems with saw, loppers or chainsaw as low to the ground as possible and immediately paint with herbicide.
- » Drill and fill method: Drill around base of very large shrubs with 10 mm drill bit every 20 mm in a downwards and slightly angled direction. The holes need to reach the sap wood and have to be filled immediately with herbicide using a squirt bottle or syringe.
- » Foliar spray: Spray all the plant to just before the point of run-off to avoid off-target damage. This method is best suited for small vigorous plants that are under no stress.

See table: *Recommended herbicides for chemical control* on back page for more information.

For more information

Natural Resources Kangaroo Island

A 37 Dauncey Street Kingscote SA 5223

P 08 8553 4444

E kinrc@sa.gov.au

www.naturalresources.sa.gov.au/kangarooisland



Above: Controlling Montpellier broom using the cut and paint method. Left: The stems are cut as close to the ground as possible. Right: Paint the stem with herbicide as soon as possible after cutting the stem.

