

Noxious Weed African Boxthorn



African Boxthorn (*Lycium ferocissimum*) was introduced to Australia from South America as a hedge plant.

Class 4 - Locally Controlled Weed

widely spread and likely to spread further, growth must be managed to reduce the spread and reproduction, certain plants not sold, propagated or knowingly distributed.

Description

Erect perennial shrub growing 5m high and 3m across with a woody, thorny growth. Stems are rigid and very branched with 15cm long spines. Leaves are smooth, fleshy and up to 3.5m long. Flowers have 5 white with pale blue marking petals that are fragrant. Produces green berries when young around 5-10mm diameter and orange-red when ripe.

Habitat

Growth on all soil types, best on lighter soils, particularly along dry creek beds. Drought Resistant.

Impact & Toxicity

Toxic to Humans and will cause discomfort and irritation. The berries, leaves, stems and roots are all poisonous and can cause nausea, vomiting, breathing difficulties and unconsciousness.

