



Weeds on LAMA LAMA COUNTRY



If you see these weeds, tell us!



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Introduction

The Lama Lama people own land that stretches from the south side of the Massey River in the north, the bottom of the Great Dividing Range in the west, the offshore islands in the east, down to the Normanby River in the South. Lama Lama Country is home to a rich and diverse array of flora and fauna, important habitats such as wetlands, littoral rainforests, mangroves and riparian areas, as well as having many cultural sites important to our Lama Lama people.

“We respect the land and all of our sacred places”.

The Lama Lama Service is dedicated to the conservation and protection of the natural and cultural values of country and are aware of the threats that weeds also have on the economic value of our clan estate.

The Lama Lama Ranger Service spends the start of each year, spraying most of the weeds on country. This is the best o time, during the wet season, when plants are growing but before they flower and seed. Once plants have seeded, we have missed the opportunity to reduce their infestation spread.

Methods:

- 1 Spraying
- 2 Removal by machines (tractors, dozers etc.)
- 3 Removal by hand
- 4 Fire management

As weeds are a major threat, we activity tackle this issue as part of our cultural and conservation commitments to country.



Weeds on Lama Lama Country

Welcome to the 'Weeds on Lama Lama Country' Weed-dex. This guide is to assist with the identification of weeds found on Lama Lama Country and the weeds that are a major threat to our ecosystems and the economic value of our estate.

With the help of Keith McDonald and the Queensland Herbarium we have identified weeds that are of major significance on our Lama Lama Country.

There are 4 categories of weeds: 4 categories:

- 1. Watch out for these weeds** – These weeds are not found on country. However, they are located in other parts of Cape York and North Queensland and could be spread to Lama Lama Country. We should keep an eye out for them. If found, immediate action is required to reduce their spread as they can have a serious impact.
- 2. Have you seen these weeds** – Weeds of National Significance. Under the Land Protection Act of 2002, by law we have to reduce or contain their spread. These weeds are found on Lama Lama Country, but are not wide spread as yet. If they become more established, they can be difficult and costly to control and have a serious impact on our Natural and Cultural values of country. If you see these weeds, please report them to the Lama Lama Rangers for action.
- 3. Plants for Localised removal** – These weeds are found in local areas such as homesteads and old cattle yards. Seed can be easily spread by cars, people and animals We control these weeds to reduce their spread.
- 4. Help us manage these weeds** – These weeds are widespread but we focus on managing them in local areas such as camp grounds, roads, gravel pits and areas round infrastructure and work sites. The seeds are mostly spread by air (wind) making it is very easy for them to populate an area and its surrounding vegetation and harder for us to control.

Weeds are one of the major threats to the environment. They threaten the economic value of our clan estate, threaten to out compete native flora and fauna, restrict access to sacred sites, and can bring down whole ecosystems. With the information provided, we hope it will be sufficient enough to tackle the spread of weeds on our Lama Lama Country.

Identification

To help identify a weed, you can look at what type of plant it belongs to. The weed-dex guide labels each weed to assist you.



Tree (a woody plant over 2 metres high generally with one main trunk)



Shrub (a woody plant less than 2 metres high generally with several stems)



Vine (a climbing or sprawling plant)



Aquatic (a weed that grows in water)



Grass (a small plant that is not woody)

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WATCH OUT FOR THESE WEEDS

These weeds are not found on country. However, they are located in other parts of Cape York and North Queensland and could be spread to Lama Lama Country. We should keep an eye out for them. If found, immediate action is required to reduce their spread as they can have a serious impact.

If you see these weeds on Country, Please contact the Lama Lama Rangers to report them. If you can take a photo and a gps reading, this will be most helpful.

Parthenium

Parthenium hysterophorus



Habitat: Usually found in pastures or dry soil areas.

Height: Usually grows 1–1.5 metre and can reach 2 metres.

Description: The leaves are pale green and covered in soft, fine hairs. The flowers are creamy white and seeds are small 1–2 mm across.

Fruit/Seed Dispersal: Seeds are mainly spread by human and mechanical contact e.g. cars, motorbikes, tractors etc.

Parthenium is regarded as one of the most serious weed threats.

If seen it must be reported immediately to rangers for quick and effective control and/or removal.



Thatch Grass

Hyparrhenia rufa



Habitat: Roadsides and disturbed areas.

Height: Grass, tufted to 3 metres tall.

Description: Green, pointed leaves, alternate from each other and stems are cane-like.

Fruit/Seed Dispersal: Birds, cars, humans, motorised vehicles such as motorbikes, quad bikes, tractors etc.

If seen it must be reported immediately to rangers for quick and effective control and/or removal.



Watch out for these weeds.

Pond Apple

Annona glabra



Habitat: Grows in swamps and tolerates saltwater; it cannot grow in dry soil.

Height: The trees reach a height of 15 metres.

Description: They have thin, gray trunks; leaves are long with an acute tip, 8–15 cm long and 4–6 cm wide. Flowers are solitary, 2–3 cm across, white to light yellow, with a rose-coloured patch at each sepal base. Fruits are round, 7–15 cm long and up to 9 cm diameter.

Fruits Dispersal: By floating on water.

It is categorized as a Class 2 weed in Australia.

If seen it must be reported immediately to rangers for quick and effective control and/or removal.



Yellow Bells

Tecoma stans



Habitat: High ground usually on a slope can grow in dry conditions and can still survive in cold weather.

Height: Can grow to 2.7 metres tall.

Description: Leaves are linear with a smooth surface and are green-olive green in colour, the flowers are yellow and grow 7–13 cm across.

Fruit/Seed Dispersal: These plants are used in nurseries and are usually spread by replanting of seedlings or stem cuttings.

If seen it must be reported immediately to rangers for quick and effective control and/or removal.



Watch out for these weeds.

Creeping Ruellia

Ruellia repens



Habitat: Groundcover under partial or full shade.

Height: Grows 15–20 cm.

Description: Thin stemmed shrub with mass flowering habit. Flowers are usually a lavender purple colour.

Seed Dispersal: When the seed pods are dry they spring open and sling seeds several feet away from the shrub allowing the species to spread faster and wider.


If seen it must be reported immediately to rangers for quick and effective control and/or removal.





HAVE YOU SEEN THESE WEEDS?

Weeds of National Significance. Under the Land Protection Act of 2002, by law we have to reduce or contain their spread. These weeds are found on Lama Lama Country, but are not wide spread as yet. If they become more established, they can be difficult and costly to control and have a serious impact on our Natural and Cultural values of country. If you see these weeds, please report them to the Lama Lama Rangers for action.



If you see these weeds on Country, Please contact the Lama Lama Rangers to report them. If you can take a photo and a gps reading, this will be most helpful.

Singapore Daisy

Sphagneticola trilobata



HABITAT: It can be found on farming property's, coastal areas, natural and planted forests, ranges/grasslands, riparian zones, disturbed areas as well as scrubs and even gardens. This plant can survive almost everywhere, from limestone to sandy beaches to swamps and lagoons and can withstand inundation and high levels of salinity.

HEIGHT: It's a creeping herb so usually is found on the ground cover.

Description: Leaves are fleshy, opposite, 4–9 cm long, they have a glossy sheen on the upper surface and margins are serrated.

FRUITS DISPERSAL: Spreads by rooting at the nodes as well as by seeds.

Originally used as an ornamental plant, this weed escapes from gardens and competes with other plants for nutrients, light and water and can over grow native plants and develop into a thick cover.

ACTION: If seen it must be reported for immediate removal.



Rubber Vine

Cryptostegia grandiflora



HABITAT: Tropical areas such as woodlands and forests, anywhere that has a minimum of 400 mm of rainfall annually.

HEIGHT: Can grow 2 metres as a shrub but when established as a vine can grow to at least 30 metres.

Description: Leaves are green, long with an acute tip, flowers are a lavender purple with a slightly darker purple on the inside.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Mainly by winds and floods. The fruit looks like pods, and are produced in divergent pairs. The fruit is large, 10–15 cm long and 2–4.5 cm wide. They are greenish or brown coloured.

This plant is slowly out competing native vegetation.

ACTION: If seen it must be reported for immediate removal.

IMPORTANT! There is a native species of vine that looks very similar to rubber vine and grows in similar places. Australian rubber vine (*Gymnanthera oblonga*) also has a similar habit and grows in the same areas of northern Australia. However, it can be distinguished by its much smaller greenish-yellow flowers (less than 2 cm long) and narrower fruit (only 5–6 mm wide). *It's always best to double-check if unsure.*



Have you seen these weeds?

Sicklepod

Senna obtusifolia



HABITAT: Invades pastures, roadsides, fencelines, creek banks and waste areas. It prefers drained, fertile soils and suited to cleared coastal areas and forest country.

HEIGHT: It grows to 1.5–2.5 metres high.

DESCRIPTION: Leaves are divided in three opposite pairs, 4 cm long and 2 cm wide. They are rounded at the end and wedge-shaped at the base. Flowers are yellow, are 1 cm wide and have 5 petals. Seeds are dark brown, shiny and flattened. Seed pods are 10–15 cm long and are slender, usually 3–5 mm wide.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: When ripe, pods burst open shedding seeds. It is spread mainly by cattle, and can also be spread by water, animals, vehicles, machinery and footwear.

It has the potential to become a major weed in Far North Queensland.

ACTION: If seen it must be reported for immediate removal.



Lantana

Lantana camara



HABITAT: It can grow in a variety of habitats, from exposed dry hillsides to wet, heavily shaded gullies.

HEIGHT: It is a flowering shrub that grows approximately 1.2 metres high.

DESCRIPTION: Stems are square with small, recurved prickles, leaves are bright green, about 6 cm long, with round toothed edges and grow opposite one another along the stem. Flowers vary in colour from pale cream to yellow, white, pink, orange, red, lilac and purple. They are about 2.5 cm in diameter, fruits are glossy, rounded, fleshy, purplish-black when ripe.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Seeds spread mostly by people and fruit-eating birds.

It forms dense thickets that smother native vegetation and are impenetrable for animals, people and vehicles.

ACTION: If seen it must be reported for immediate removal.



Have you seen these weeds?

Gamba Grass

Andropogon gayanus



HABITAT: Can grow almost anywhere that has on average annual rainfall of 400 mm to 1500 mm.

HEIGHT: Mature plants can grow to 4 metres tall with tussocks up to 70 cm in diameter.

DESCRIPTION: Leaves reach 30–60 cm long, 3 cm wide, with a distinctive white midrib and covered with soft hairs. Root system 1 metre from tussock and close to the soil surface.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Reproduce by seed and spreads rapidly where the natural vegetation has been disturbed, it grows actively in the wet season and flowers in April. Seeds develop around May and June, and set in July and August. Seeds are light and dispersed by wind, although 90% fall within 5 metres of the parent plants. Its also spread by water movement and in mud on vehicles.

This grass replaces native vegetation therefore reducing natural biodiversity on non-grazed land. It contains a high bio mass that can fuel intense bushfires leading to loss of tree cover and long-term environmental damage.

ACTION: If seen it must be reported for immediate removal.



Olive Hymernachne

Hymernachne amplexicaulis



HABITAT: It prefers stream banks, shallow wetlands and irrigation ditches, primarily in the coastal wet tropics of Northern Queensland.

HEIGHT: Can grow up to 2.5 metres high.

DESCRIPTION: Leaf blades are 10–45 cm long and up to 3 cm wide. Flower heads are spike-like and cylindrical usually 20–40 cm long.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Seeds are spread by water movement and migratory aquatic birds.

This weed can affect drains, lagoons, wetlands, creeks and rivers. It increases flooding by reducing the flow capacity of drainage networks and interferes with irrigation and infrastructure. It also degrades water quality for recreational purposes.

ACTION: If seen it must be reported for immediate removal.



Have you seen these weeds?

Giant Rat's Tail

Sporobolus jacquemontii



HABITAT: Can grow almost anywhere.

HEIGHT: Grows to 1.7 metres tall.

DESCRIPTION: Seed head grows up to 45 cm long and 3 cm wide.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Seeds spread by livestock in manure and on fur and hooves. Also spread by feral and native animals, vehicles and machinery, in hay and untested pasture seed and fast flowing water over turf.

This plant quickly dominates pastures, particularly after overgrazing or soil disturbance. It's also known to loosen the teeth of cattle and horses while grazing.

ACTION: If seen it must be reported for immediate removal.





PLANTS FOR LOCALISED REMOVAL

These weeds are found in local areas such as homesteads and old cattle yards. Seed can be easily spread by cars, people and animals. We control these weeds to reduce their spread.



Wild Custard Apple

Annona squamosa



HABITAT: Can grow almost anywhere, it grows in rich, well-drained, deep rocky soils but prefers loose, sandy loams. This tree is usually found around urban areas, but can be found in the bush.

HEIGHT: Very small tree, usually no more than 6 metres tall.

DESCRIPTION: It has alternate, simple, elongate, dark green leaves, the fruit is green when ripe and usually has a round shape. It is covered with protruding bumps on it's surface. The fruits flesh is white and creamy.

FRUITS DISPERSAL: The seeds are usually spread by fruit-eating birds and also by people.

ACTION: If seen please notify rangers for localised removal.



Madagascar Periwinkle

Catharanthus roseus



HABITAT: Can tolerate direct sun exposure and is drought tolerant, so can grow almost anywhere.

HEIGHT: Grows to 60 cm high.

DESCRIPTION: Has smooth, glossy lance shaped leaves with a prominent pale midrib. Flowers vary from pink, rose/mauve and white or near white. They have 5 petals and is formed in large quantities at the tips of the plant.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: They 'self sow' their own seeds by use of exploding pods. Also usually spread by ants, wind and water.

They are becoming invasive due to their ability to grow spontaneously.

ACTION: If seen please report to rangers for localised removal.



Yellow Oleander

Cascabela thevetia



HABITAT: Found along roadsides, waste areas, disturbed areas and pastures.

HEIGHT: Can grow to 10 metres tall.

DESCRIPTION: The leaves are narrow, pointed 10–15 cm long and 0.5–1.5 cm wide. Flowers are yellow or peach in colour and are waxy, bell-shaped, usually 5 cm in diameter. Fruit is green and turns black when ripe usually 2.5–4 cm in diameter and contains 1–2 seeds. It has a milky sap that is poisonous if ingested.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: It is usually spread by dumped garden waste.

This plant is highly invasive in Queensland, especially along creek systems. It is a highly poisonous plant.

ACTION: If seen please notify rangers for localised removal.



African Tulip Tree

Spathodea campanulata



HABITAT: Often found around gullies and along footpaths.

HEIGHT: Grows to 24 metres tall.

DESCRIPTION: Leaves are broadly oval-shaped, strong veined, bronze when young and deep glossy green when mature. The leaves are 20 cm long, the leaflets are leathery and the leaf stalk is 6–15 cm long. It produces large flat clusters of velvety, bronze-green buds and large orange-red flowers with yellow frilly edges.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Capable of spreading from one planting, seeds spread by wind, can be spread by water when found along waterways, also spread by dumped garden waste in bush lands.

It infests gullies, vegetation around waterways and disturbed rainforests.

ACTION: If seen please notify rangers for localised removal.



Leucaena

Leucaena leucocephala



HABITAT: Found at many disturbed sites and creek lines.

HEIGHT: Grows to approximately 6 metres.

DESCRIPTION: The leaves are about 25 cm long and bipinnate, with dull greyish-green leaflets. Flowers are spherical, creamy-yellow and on short stalks about 5 cm long. Pods are flattened and can be up to 15 cm long, in dense clusters each pod contains 20 flat seeds that scatter when ripe.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Seeds spread easily to adjacent areas unless heavily grazed or otherwise controlled.

It forms a dense thicket that restricts the movement of animals and excludes other plants.

ACTION: If seen please notify rangers for localised removal.



Chilli

Capsicum frutescens



HABITAT: Not usually found in the wild, usually found in urban areas and cultivated areas.

HEIGHT: Don't grow very tall, usually no more than 2 metres high.

DESCRIPTION: Flowers are white, with a greenish white or greenish yellow corolla. The fruits grow erect, usually very small 10–20 mm and 3–7 mm in diameter. The fruit typically grows a pale yellow and matures to a bright red but can be different colours as well.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Seeds are spread by birds and also by people, especially around camp grounds.

ACTION: If seen please notify rangers for localised removal.





HELP US MANAGE THESE WEEDS

These weeds are widespread but we focus on managing them in local areas such as camp grounds, roads, gravel pits and areas around infrastructure and work sites. The seeds are mostly spread by air (wind) making it is very easy for them to populate an area and its surrounding vegetation and harder for us to control.



Khaki Weed

Alternanthera pungens



HABITAT: Everywhere.

HEIGHT: It is a ground cover weed.

DESCRIPTION: Herb with perennial root system and annual above ground growth. Taproot is often large and woody. Stems short, silky hairy. Leaves are ovate to circular, hairless to slightly hairy, margins entire; leaf stalk 0.2–1 cm long. Inflorescence ovoid, 6–10 mm wide. The fruits are 1–1.5 mm long. Seeds are about 1 mm wide, brownish, globe-shaped. The flowers are very small and surrounded by spiny bracts 2–3 mm long.

FRUITS DISPERSAL: Spread by seed within spiny bracts that stick to tyres, clothing and animals. Local spread may also occur through spreading stems that root at nodes.



Help us manage these weeds

Noogoora Burr

Xanthium pungens



HABITAT: Widespread in Queensland, occurring in tropical, central and west regions.

HEIGHT: Grows up to 2.5 m in height.

DESCRIPTION: Has blotched purple stems, leaves are dark green on upper surface, 15 cm in diameter and roughly textured with minute bristles. Flowers are inconspicuous, in leaf axils towards the end of the branches flowers develop into hard, woody, spiny burrs, 1.2 cm to 2 cm long with hooked spines.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Spread by seed in burrs, burrs are spread by attaching to animals, clothing and bags.



Coffee Senna

Senna occidentalis



HABITAT: Roadsides, waste areas, disturbed sites, pastures, grasslands, open woodlands, coastal environs and crops in tropical, subtropical and semi-arid regions.

HEIGHT: *Senna occidentalis* is an unarmed slender upright and short-lived shrub, 0.5–2.5 m tall.

DESCRIPTION: Its once-compound leaves consist of 3–7 pairs of leaflets (2–10 cm long and 2–3 cm wide) that have pointed tips. A mounded gland at base of leaf stalk, no glands between leaflets. There is a conspicuous dark-coloured gland near the base of the stalk of each leaf. Its flowers (2–3 cm across) have five yellow petals and are borne in small clusters in the upper leaf forks. Its fruit is a somewhat flattened, straight or slightly sickle-shaped, pod (7.5–13 cm long and 8–10 mm wide). This species gives off a foul odour when damaged.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: This plant reproduces entirely by seed. Seeds are dispersed by water or in mud sticking to animals, humans, machinery and vehicles. They may also be spread as a contaminant of agricultural produce.



Help us manage these weeds

Calopo

Calopogonium mucinoides



HABITAT: A widespread weed of cane fields, roadside banks, edges of rainforest and other disturbed areas.

HEIGHT: Once established in trees can grow to more than 30 metres tall.

DESCRIPTION: An annual creeping vine with stems covered in brownish hairs, has trifoliate leaves, 3–6 cm long, leaflets rounded and densely hairy, pea-shaped flowers are pale bluish-purple with yellow-green centres in clusters on stalks arising in leaf axils, densely hairy pods are brown, narrow, flattened, constricted between the seeds and about 15 cm long, each pod contains 5–7 brown or yellow seeds.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Spread by livestock and people.



Hyptis; Stinking Roger

Mesosphaerum suaveolans



Help us manage these weeds

HABITAT: Common along roadsides and in cultivated paddocks and overgrazed areas.

HEIGHT: 1.5 metres with hairy, four-angled stems that is hairy on upper parts.

DESCRIPTION: Leaves are opposite, dull green, stalked, slightly toothed and heart-shaped-pointed at the tip and rounded at the base with an under surface that is densely hairy, leaves have a strong mint smell when crushed, flowers are small, purple-mauve, about 5 mm long and usually arranged in clusters in the forks of the upper leaves of the plant, fruit is a lobed two-sectioned burr, each with two small, dark brown, shield-shaped seeds.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Spread by seeds and are primarily spread by animals, machinery and other vehicles and contaminated hay.



Urena Burr

Urena lobata



HABITAT: Found around swamps, forest margins, open woodlands, roadsides, waste areas and disturbed sites in tropical and sub-tropical regions.

HEIGHT: Usually around 0.5–2 metres tall but can reach a height of 3 metres.

DESCRIPTION: Its younger stems are densely covered in star-shaped hairs, while its older stems become somewhat woody with age. It's alternately arranged leaves (4–10 cm long) have toothed margins and vary from being almost entire to shallowly three-lobed. Its pink flowers (about 1.5–2 cm across) are usually borne singly on short stalks in the upper leaf forks. Its fruit (6–10 mm across) are covered in numerous small hooked spines and split into several one-seeded segments when mature.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: This species reproduces by seed. The hooked spines on its fruit readily attach to animal fur and clothing. Seeds may also be dispersed by water, soil or contaminated agricultural produce.



Scarlet Creeper

Ipomoea hederifolia



HABITAT: Prefers moist, fertile sites in full sun, mostly established in disturbed areas.

HEIGHT: It is a ground cover weed but when established as a vine it can reach 12 metres in trees.

DESCRIPTION: The leaves are variable in shape, from 'heart-shaped' to three-lobed. Leaves are alternate, 5–17 cm long and 3.5–16 cm wide with petioles 2–18 cm long. Upper leaf surfaces are covered with dense, soft, appressed hairs (lower surfaces are often silky). There are five sepals. The limb is bright blue or bluish purple becoming reddish; tube pink to whitish; up to 10 cm in diameter; whole corolla 5–8 cm long; stamens and style included; ovary glabrous. There are five stamens per flower. There may be up to six dark brown to black seeds per capsule. Seeds are 3–4 mm in diameter.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Mostly spread by gardeners dumping unwanted vegetation material. Does not produce viable seeds, but the few seeds that are produced are mainly spread by water.



Help us manage these weeds

Wild Passion Fruit

Passiflora foetida



HABITAT: Found along river and creek banks, crops and pastures.

HEIGHT: Height depending on what tree/shrub they become established on.

DESCRIPTION: A climbing vine, densely covered in soft, sometimes sticky hairs, leaves have 3–5 pointed lobes, 3–10 cm long, passion fruit-like flowers are 3–5 cm wide with cream petals and white, pink or purple centres, fruits are dry orange berries, 1–3 cm wide, enclosed in prickly outer leaves, has an unpleasant odour.

FRUITS DISPERSAL: Mostly spread by birds.



Mossman River Burr

Cenchrus echinatus



HABITAT: Infests footpaths, urban parks, lawns, roadsides, disturbed sites, waste areas, coastal environs, estuarine areas, grasslands, open woodlands, waterways, wetlands, pastures and crops.

HEIGHT: Usually growing 25–60 cm tall, but occasionally reaching up to 1 metre in height.

DESCRIPTION: Its stem bases and lower leaf sheaths often have a reddish or purplish-coloured tinge. Its seed-heads are spike-like with numerous, almost stalk-less, burr-like structures (4–10 mm in size). These 'burrs' contain several flower spikelets enclosed in numerous spine-tipped bracts and hairy bristles. The 'burrs' are reddish or purplish-green when young, but turn straw-coloured or dark brown as they mature.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: This plant reproduces by seed, which are mostly spread when the spiny 'burrs' they are contained within become attached to animals, vehicles and clothing. These 'burrs' may also be dispersed by water and in contaminated agricultural produce (e.g. pasture seeds and wool).



Help us manage these weeds

Common sensitive weed

Mimosa pudica



HABITAT: Found mostly in disturbed and cultivated areas such as roadsides, vacant allotments, heavily-grazed pastures, crops and lawns, and also grows on a wide variety of soils.

HEIGHT: Grows about 15–45 cm high.

DESCRIPTION: Reddish-brown or purple round, often woody stems with short curved prickles, dark-green, feathery, fern-like leaves, divided into one or more pairs or segments near the end of each leaf stalk, segments divided into 10–25 pairs of leaflets which close up when disturbed or injured, pale pink or purplish pink flowers in fluffy balls, 1 cm across, flowers on short stalks in leaf forks, developing into clusters of seed pods, seed pods 2–3 cm long with stiff bristles along edges and 1–5 seeds. Seeds flattened, small and 3 mm in diameter.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Spread mainly by humans and clinging to animals.



Grader Grass

Themeda quadrivalvus



HABITAT: Prefers sub-tropical and tropical areas and also found along roadsides and disturbed areas.

HEIGHT: Grows up to 1–2.5 metres in height.

DESCRIPTION: Has jointed cane-like stems, long narrow leaf blades up to 60 cm in length. Bent, brown bristles along the flower spikes. Seed heads are reddish-brown, changing to a golden colour at maturity, 15–60 cm long.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Seeds spread by vehicles, machinery, animals and on clothing. Also spread by soil movement along roadsides by graders.



Help us manage these weeds

Gooseberry

Physalis angulata



HABITAT: Roadsides and waste areas. It grows best in moist, fertile soils and can tolerate partial shade.

HEIGHT: Usually 50 cm high.

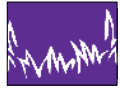
DESCRIPTION: Branched erect nearly glabrous herb; stems angled, hollow, leaves ovate to ovate-oblong, obtuse or acute or rounded (somewhat asymmetric) at base, rather dark dull green, very short-puberulent on both sides on the nerves, 3–15 cm long, 2.5–10 cm wide, on long petioles 2–10 cm, calyx 4–6 mm long in flower, 2–4 long in fruit, short-puberulent; corolla nearly 1 cm long, yellowish-green, partly puberulent externally; anthers blue, 1–2 mm; fruit about 1–1.8 cm long.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Mostly spread by birds eating the fruits and dropping seeds in different places.



Guinea Grass

Megathryus maxima



HABITAT: Colonises disturbed sites, including roadsides, and particularly untended areas.

HEIGHT: Commonly grows up to 1.5 metres high, some individual plants have been recorded at 3 metres.

DESCRIPTION: Leaf blades are long, narrow and finely tipped, leaves have a prominent mid-rib and are about 1 cm wide, seed heads are large, up to 40 cm long and are well-spread, with a large number of fine branches, and Seeds are oblong-shaped and often purple.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Seeds spread on the fur of native animals passing through an infestation.



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Snake Weed

Stachytarpheta jamaicensis



HABITAT: Found along roadsides and in neglected areas, pastures and sugar cane.

HEIGHT: It is a ground cover plant.

DESCRIPTION: Leaves are 10 cm long, oval-shaped, tapering at the base into a short stalk, occurring in pairs along the stem, flowers can be white, dark blue, purple, pink and red, each flower has a 5 mm wide tube opening into five petals, flowers are borne on stiff spikes, 25 cm long, flower spikes have a 'snake skin' appearance that develops as the flower dries.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Mostly spread by livestock with seeds getting stuck to fur, and by clothes, vehicles and machinery. And also can be spread by water during floods.



Molasses Grass

Melinis minutiflora



HABITAT: Can grow anywhere.

HEIGHT: Height varies.

DESCRIPTION: A perennial mat grass which is easily spread, stems are branched, up to 90 cm long, foliage is sticky with a strong molasses-like odour, reddish leaf blades can be up to 30 cm long, purplish slender flower heads are 10–20 cm in length.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Readily dispersed by wind.



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Chinese Burr

Triumfetta rhomboidea



HABITAT: Grows on agricultural land and disturbed areas particularly roadsides in lowland and upland rain forest.

HEIGHT: Grows to 1–2 metres tall.

DESCRIPTION: Flowers are often in clusters of 3 and are yellow. Leaf blades are usually 4–11cm long and 1.5–9 cm wide and are dark green. The leaves are slightly hairy on upper surface and more hairy on the lower surface.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Spreads by the fruit getting attached to clothes and animal fur.



Calotrope

Calotropis procera



HABITAT: Roadsides, watercourses, old cultivated land and heavily grazed areas.

HEIGHT: Grows up to 4 metres high.

DESCRIPTION: Oozes milky sap when any part is cut or broken. Stems smooth and pale greyish-green. Mature stems have beige corrugated bark, cork-like in appearance and texture. Grey-green leaves attach in opposite pairs directly to the stem. Leaves are large, 10–20 cm long and 4–10 cm wide, with a short pointed tip and heart-shaped base. Flowers grow in groups in the forks of uppermost leaves, with up to 15 flowers per group. Five-petaled waxy flowers are white with purple tips inside and a central purplish crown. Large green inflated fruit is rounded at the base and pointed at the tip, similar to a mango. Fruit grows 8–12 cm long and almost as wide. Seeds have tufts of long, silky hairs at one end.

FRUIT/SEED DISPERSAL: Fruit bursts, releasing numerous seeds that are carried long distances by wind. Spreads rapidly from base of plants.



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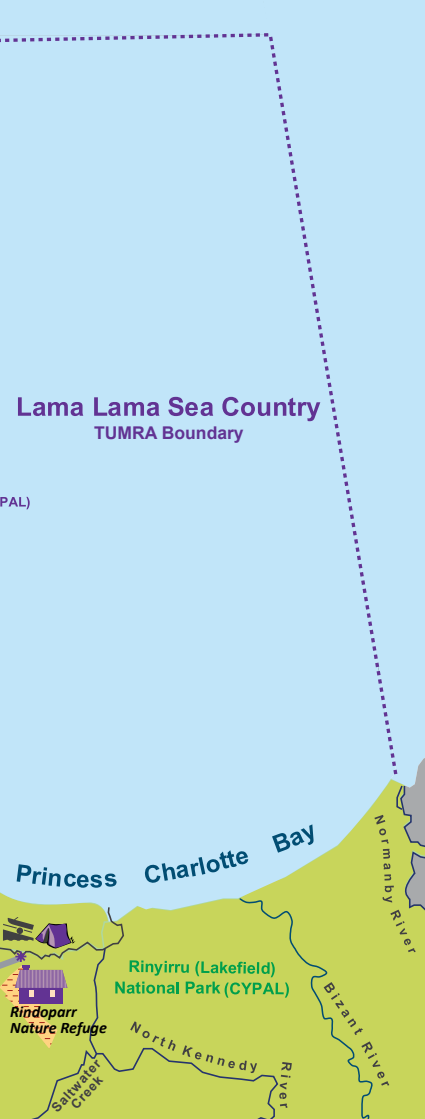
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Area Covered by the Weeds on Lama Lama Country



 Areas where these weeds are found





Lama Lama Sea Country

TUMRA Boundary

Our lands extend for several hundred kilometres around Princess Charlotte Bay, from the Massey River, north of Silver Plains homestead, to the Stewart River and south to the Normanby River. From the base of the McIlwraith Ranges, to the coast and includes Islands off Princess Charlotte Bay including the Marpa Islands Group, Birkett, Pelican and Stainer Islands.

	National Park - Cape York Peninsular Aboriginal Lands (CYPAL)
	Kulla Land Trust - Aboriginal Freehold
	Lama Lama Land Trust - Aboriginal Freehold
	Lama Lama Land Trust - Nature Refuge - Aboriginal Freehold
	Lama Lama Land Trust - Lilyvale Pastoral Lease - Aboriginal Freehold

Aboriginal Freehold is Private Property Lands Owned and Managed by Traditional Owners.

CYPAL Lands are owed by Traditional Owners and managed in partnership with the Queensland Government as National Park.

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