

TECHNICAL NOTES

Date: 19/02/25 Issue Number: 3

ACTIVE INGREDIENT: Aminocyclopyrachlor 240g/litre

GROUP 4

HERBICIDE

LANTANA (Lantana camara)



Lantana (*Lantana camara*) is a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) that has invaded more than 1600 kilometres of the eastern coastline of Australia from the south coast of New South Wales to Far North Queensland (FNQ)^{2,3,4}.

Why Lantana is considered a problem?

Lantana forms impenetrable thickets that blanket entire hillsides of neglected pastures in warmer climates of increased rainfall^{1,6}. The species tends to alter the structural and floral composition of native ecosystems, leading to its complete dominance of the understorey vegetation^{1,6}. The environmental and agricultural implications of its invasive presence include^{1,2,5,6}:

- → Out competition and exclusion of native pastures
- → Loss of other nearby desirable species due to allelopathic properties
- → Disruption of the succession cycle in regrowing forests
- Reduction in yields or hinders harvesting in forestry plantations
- → Blocks the movement of both cattle and graziers
- → Toxins in the leaves and seeds of many varieties are poisonous to livestock
- → Burns readily and increases wildfire intensity

FACT: Recent research has indicated that more than 1400 native plant species are negatively affected by the invasion of lantana, including many endangered and threatened species³.

CONTROLLING LANTANA WITH METHOD 240SL

<u>Method® 240SL</u> Herbicide supports graziers in reclaiming and restoring pastoral land through the control of lantana and other problematic broadleaf, brush, and woody weeds (e.g. prickly acacia, mesquite, African boxthorn):

→ A new class of chemistry which provides systemic control of the target weed by disrupting cellular division and growth.



- → Easy-to-use, unscheduled formulation that offers a convenient solution for the management of lantana and other woody weeds.
- → Potassium salt (KCI) formulation with enhanced foliar and root absorption.
- → Highly systemic both laterally and vertically in the treated plant.

The foliar application of <u>Method 240SL</u> is recommended for plants less than two metres in height (see label rates below). Use sufficient spray volume to thoroughly wet all foliage and stems of the target weed to the point of runoff. It is also important to use a nozzle configuration and pressure that ensures good canopy penetration.

REFERENCES

- 1 NSW Government 2024, Lantana, viewed 25 October 2024, https://www2.environment. nsw.gov.au/topics/animals-and-plants/pest-animals-and-weeds/weeds/widespreadweeds /lantana.
- 2 NRE Tasmania 2003, Weed Management Guide: Lantana (Lantana camara), viewed 25 October 2024, https://nre.tas.gov.au/Documents/Lantana_CRC_bpmg.pdf.
- 3 Queensland Department of Agriculture & Fisheries 2023, Lantana (Lantana camara), viewed 17 November 2024, https://www.daf.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf__ file/0009/62010/lantana .pdf.
- 4 Brisbane City Council 2024, Weed Identification Tool: Lantana (Lantana camara), viewed 23 November 2024, https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/lantana.
- 23 November 2024, https://weeds.brisbane.qld.gov.au/weeds/lantana.
 5 Weeds Australia 2024, Lantana (Lantana camara), viewed 29 November 2024, https://weeds.org.au/profiles/lantana-common-kamara/.
- 6 Raskar, SŠ, Sonani, VV & Patil, PA 2013, 'Study of Economics of Maize as Influenced By Different Levels of Nitrogen, Phosphorus and Zinc', International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications, vol. 2, no. 10.

Table 1. Method 240SL Herbicide label rates			
	Method 240SL Rates	Adjuvant Rates	Comments
Individual plant treatments / Spot Spraying	200 mL – 500 mL/100 L water	Include the MSO at 1% v/v (1 L per 100 L spray solution).	Apply the higher rate for difficult to control weeds. Apply with handgun, or a hand-held or backpack sprayer. Use sufficient spray volume to thoroughly and uniformly wet target weed or brush foliage. Spray the vegetation starting at top and covering sides. Avoid spraying to point of run off as injuries to desirable species or ground cover may occur.



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TREATMENT TIPS FOR BEST RESULTS

The optimal condition for foliar treatment of lantana is six weeks after sufficient rainfall (>35 mm) with a minimum temperature of $15^{\circ}C^2$. In Queensland, this is generally from early summer to autumn (as shown in Table 2). However, earlier control will potentially allow for secondary treatment in the same growing season². Table 2. The growth and treatment calendar for lantana (*Lantana camara*) in Australia^{2,3}.



SOME IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE HERBICIDAL CONTROL OF LANTANA INCLUDE:

- In most cases, it is recommended that lighter infestations (<50 plants/ha) are addressed first to make the eventual control of more established populations manageable³.
- A larger infestation (>150 plants/ha) can be initially reduced by mechanical methods (e.g. dozing, slashing, or stickraking) or fire and followed by spot treatments with <u>Method</u> <u>240SL</u> Herbicide³. In situations involving regrowth, ensure vegetation has had time to sufficiently regrow, especially those which have been bulldozed, slashed, burnt, ploughed, or had a previous chemical treatment to ensure adequate foliage for herbicide uptake.
- This flowering shrub is highly prolific (~12,000 seeds per plant) and seed banks remain viable for at least four years³. This means that the additional control of seedlings is vital to ensure that initial management efforts on the parent plant are not squandered³.
- Variable results may be due to inconsistent application methods, mix rates, or seasonal factors. The red-flowered and pink-edged, red-flowered lantana varieties also have comparatively smaller, tougher leaves and are often considered the most difficult to control – a higher application rate may be required for mortality³.
- The removal of grazing animals from treated areas is recommended because the leaves of stressed plants often have increased sugar-levels and are more palatable³.

STEWARDSHIP

DO NOT apply <u>Method 240SL</u> Herbicide in a manner that may cause an unacceptable impact to native vegetation, agricultural crops, landscaped gardens and aquaculture production, or cause contamination of plant or livestock commodities.

It is the responsibility of the landowner and/or applicator to follow the label directions, restrictions, and stewardship requirements. The herbicide label provides critical information on the safe, legal, and effective use of the herbicide and all applicators must complete the <u>Method</u> <u>240SL Stewardship Training</u> prior to use.

TANK MIXING

<u>Method 240SL</u> Herbicide is compatible with other herbicides which are registered for the situations of use, methods of applications and timings as specified on the label. Refer to the tank mix product label for further information on tank mixing, additional instructions or restrictions.



Graph 1. A trial was conducted in NSW evaluated foliar application of two different rates of <u>Method 240SL</u> with a handheld pressurized wand sprayer. A methylated seed oil (MSO) was included in the spray solution at a rate of 1% (1L/100L). The trial results showed a rate of 300ml/100L of water gave 100% control 12 months after treatment.

CONTACT US

For further information on the treatment of lantana or other broadleaf or woody weeds, please contact the <u>Envu</u> <u>Environmental Science Team in Australia</u>.

> Find out more about Method 240SL



