

Management strategies

Control methods

Control methods include cultivation, which is effective in the seedling stage, or spraying with suitable herbicides.

There are numerous biological control agents, such as the Bathurst burr seed fly, *Euaresta bullans*, and the rust, *Puccinia xanthii*, which have limited effectiveness.

1. Treating isolated patches and limited infestations

Foliar spot spray application with Starane Advanced at 45 mL/100 L water is the most reliable method for optimum control. The best time to spray is seedlings and young plants up to 40 cm high, prior to flowering.

2. Treating infestations in grazed lucerne (NSW only)

For grazing lucerne situations that have been heavily grazed prior to application, Starane Advanced at 300 mL/ha, as a boom application, will control Bathurst burr at two to eight leaf stage up to 15 cm high. The lucerne needs to be at least 18 months old to minimise crop injury and maximise weed control.

3. Treating extensive infestations along water courses

Strategic use of fire to manage Bathurst burr along floodplains and road reserves will have limited success. DO NOT use a heavy duty slasher /mulcher to knock down existing plants as the seeds will be dispersed more widely.

For best results

Herbicide spraying is most effective on young plants and should occur before any burrs are formed to prevent seeding.

Treatment tips

For spot spray application, knapsacks and 12-volt sprayer packs are suitable to treat Bathurst burr in isolated patches. However, higher pressure hand gun equipment should be used on larger and more dense infestations.



Bathurst burr

(*Xanthium spinosum*)



Starane®
Advanced
HERBICIDE



Bathurst burr (*Xanthium spinosum*)

Description

Bathurst burr is an erect, much-branched annual herb, up to 1 m high but usually 30 to 60 cm. Leaves are dark green on the upper surface, a paler green on the under surface, up to 7 cm long and usually three lobed. Stems are branched with one or two three-pronged yellow spines at the base of each leaf stalk. Flowers are creamy green

and small, developing into straw-coloured burrs, 1.0 to 1.5 cm long, with numerous yellow hooked spines. Each burr contains two seeds. Of the two seeds present in each burr, only one will germinate in a single season. The other seed will remain dormant for two or three years, sometimes longer.



Timing

Product	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Starane® Advanced Herbicide	✗	⚙️	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	⚙️	✗	✗	✗	✗

KEY:

✓

Best time to spray/treat

⚙️

Can spray/treat if conditions are suitable

✗

Do not spray/treat

Herbicides for control of Bathurst burr

Product*	Method of application	Rate†	State
Starane® Advanced Herbicide	Foliar spray	45 mL/100 L of water	All
Colex-D® Herbicide	Foliar spray	445 mL/100 L of water	All

Note: Preferred product option in bold. † Consult label for details of growth stage and use, especially where range of rates is given.



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