Prickle Bush

Graslan[®]

Which Weed is Which?

The four prickly bushes or trees mentioned below need to be accurately identified before commencing a weed control program:

- Prickly acacia (*Vachellia nilotica*) can be distinguished by its seed pods because of constrictions between the seeds.
- Parkinsonia (*Parkinsonia aculeata*) has flattened green leaf stalks with small leaflets moderately spaced along each side.

All other types of prickle bush have ferny-type leaves:

- Mimosa bush (Vachellia farnesiana) has a cylindrical pod.
- Mesquite (*Prosopis pallida*) has 'lambs' tails' flowers versus small round flowers for prickly acacia and mimosa bush.

If there are no flowers or pods, bark colour can be used to identify these weeds:

- Prickly acacia has a tinge of orange or green when young.
- Parkinsonia plants of all ages have green bark.
- Mimosa bush, when young, has grey bark with white spots.
- Mesquite bark is often green and/or dark red when young.

Management Strategies

Granule Application

The application method (distribution) of Graslan[™] Herbicide is different for prickly acacia compared to parkinsonia due to the growth habit of the plant; however, the best time of application for both is prior to the wet season.

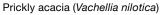
For prickly acacia, Graslan pellets need to be placed right at the base of the plant for optimum control. This is because the plant acts like a funnel during rainfall events as the rain drains down the branches to the base of the plant. Therefore, in low rainfall areas, this method gives the quickest level of control as the chemical is activated quickly and reaches the large taproot system more easily.

For parkinsonia, Graslan pellets need to be scattered evenly within 30 cm beyond the drip zone of the plant as the many surface roots are able to absorb the herbicide more evenly instead of placing all the pellets at the base of the plant. This also helps in residual control of seedlings that germinate in subsequent seasons.



Mimosa bush (Vachellia farnesiana)







Application of Graslan to a prickly acacia plant: apply one dispenser unit dose (7 g) for every 1 m height of plant to the base of the plant as described and shown above.



Parkinsonia (Parkinsonia aculeata)



Mesquite (*Prosopis pallida*) WA Permit 82303





Refer to label for full application details.

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