

# UPPER MACQUARIE COUNTY COUNCIL

The noxious weeds control authority for the areas of Bathurst Regional Council, Blayney and Oberon Shire Councils and the Lithgow City Council



Serrated tussock

## SERRATED TUSSOCK

### GOOD NEIGHBOURS CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS!

Serrated tussock is a grass that you do not want on your land. It is a *Weed of National Significance*.

It one of the worst weeds in Australia since it has no grazing value and infestations result in a significant loss in production and dense infestations may completely dominate pasture.

Once established it is very difficult to control on land of low fertility both because of the difficulty of establishing competing ground covers and because the cost of control may not be recovered in productivity increases.

On the tablelands of NSW serrated tussock is a major problem because of lighter soil types and lack of competitive pasture species.

Serrated tussock is similar in appearance to several native grasses. It is a perennial tussock forming grass that is long lived with a deep fibrous root system. It grows to a height of about 600 mm with a diameter at the base of 150 mm. The leaves are only about .5 mm in diameter and tightly rolled, with small easily felt serrations along their length.

Seed production is prolific; large plants can easily exceed 140,000 seeds per year. The seeds remain viably for many years.



Seed heads break off and catch on obstacles, such as fences. Large infestations along fence-lines result.

The identification of serrated tussock can be difficult, but it is particularly important that it not be mistaken for other, beneficial tussock grasses.

Before you begin any control program if you are in any doubt about the identification of the weed contact the Council.

**You must control serrated tussock growing on your land.**

Serrated tussock is a Class 4 noxious weed within the area of Upper Macquarie County Council and its growth and spread must be controlled by an effective program of work according to the principles of Integrated Weed Management.

Long term control requires more than spraying with herbicide, which would need to be repeated over many years.

Control needs to focus on preventing the establishment, and re-establishment, of seedlings as well as the eradication of adult plants.

While herbicide spraying will most often be the necessary first step in any control program, establishing and maintaining an alternative groundcover is the only effective long term method of control.

On arable land serrated tussock can be successfully controlled with a program of cultivation, cropping and pasture improvement.



If you do not understand what is required, or if you require further information or assistance, please **contact the Council on 63331375**.

Your Weeds Officer's name and contact telephone number are set out below. Please contact the Weeds Officer if you require any further information.

..... Telephone number  
Weeds Officer .....