

Serrated Tussock Control

Manual Removal / Chipping

Chipping is a cheap and effective way of removing small infestations of Serrated Tussock.

- Suitable for all land situations with scattered or light infestation or hard to reach places.
- Serrated Tussock must be completely uprooted and soil removed from roots to prevent re-rooting.
- To promote competition and increase ground cover, scatter pasture seed and fertilizer in bare ground left by chipping.



- Apply control all year, preferably before flowering.
- Follow up treatment to remove regrowth.

Chemical Control

Spot spraying is done using a knapsack or hand held spray unit with handgun.

- Good for small to medium infestations.
- Apply registered herbicides at recommended rates.
- It is important to only spray the target plant and cover all the leaves of the plant. Avoid spraying desirable grasses. Keep spray drift minimal.
- Control scattered infestations first and work back to denser infestations.
- Apply any time of the year when Serrated Tussock plants are green, actively growing and not moisture stressed. Optimum time for application is May to October.

- Always follow up treatments with further spot spraying or chipping, as some plants may be missed and new seedlings will always emerge.
- **Broadacre spraying** is suitable for high and extensive infestations of Serrated Tussock. It is important to follow up with a strategy to promote competition and increase ground cover on the treated area.

Grazing Management

- Conservative grazing management is necessary to maintain pasture cover and density to effectively compete with Serrated Tussock.

Ground Cover

- Maintain ground cover of desirable vegetation at 90-100%. Serrated Tussock will quickly infest bare ground and disturbed areas such as overgrazed pastures.

Cultivation

- Cultivate arable land and use short term crops phase to reduce the Serrated Tussock seed bank. Then sow a competitive pasture to promote competition and increase ground cover. For more details consult your agronomist.



Shelterbelts / Wind Breaks

- Reduce invasion from neighbouring properties with windbreaks that contain trees or shrubs with a range of heights, acting as a physical barrier to catch windblown Serrated Tussock seed heads.



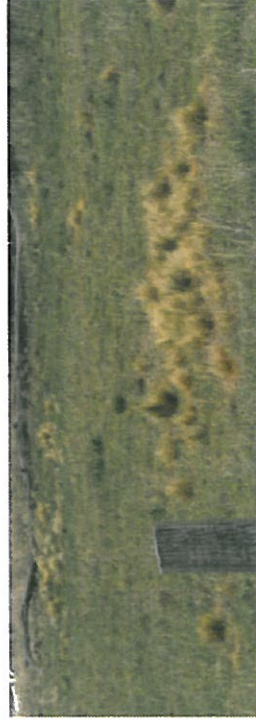


Best Practice

- Correctly identify Serrated Tussock.
- Chip out (manually remove with mattock or hoe) individual plants or spot treat with registered herbicide. In bare ground created by spot treatments, scatter pasture seed and fertilizer to promote ground cover and competition with Serrated Tussock seedlings.
- Treat plants to prevent flowering. Flowering plants should be bagged and disposed of.
- Maintain ground cover of desirable vegetation at 90-100%.
- Control scattered infestations first and work back to denser infestations.
- Regularly monitor treated areas for the emergence of seedlings.
- Follow up treatment to remove regrowth.



Maintaining ground cover and correct management can protect your paddocks.



For more information regarding identification and control, contact:

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Serrated Tussock (*Nassella Trichotoma*)

Why is Serrated Tussock such a problem?

- Serrated Tussock is a highly invasive weed in temperate Australia.
- One Serrated Tussock plant can produce 100,000 seeds in one season. Seeds are wind dispersed and seed prolifically during November and December. While most seeds remain close to the parent plant, seed heads are light and can travel up to 50km in the wind.
- Serrated Tussock will affect neighbouring properties.
- It is drought tolerant, thrives in low rainfall habitats (400-500mm).
- Trials carried out in NSW showed that production in heavily infested Serrated Tussock paddocks can be reduced by up to 95%.
- Seeds can remain viable for 14 years.
- Seeds pass through animals unharmed.

