



INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT, USING COMBINATIONS OF



CHEMICAL, MECHANICAL, PHYSICAL & CULTURAL TECHNIQUES,



IS CRITICAL FOR LONG TERM CONTROL OF SERRATED TUSOCK



CONTROL NEEDS TO FOCUS ON PREVENTING THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF SEEDLINGS AS WELL AS ERRADICATION OF ADULT PLANTS. THIS MEANS ESTABLISHING AN ALTERNATIVE GROUND COVER.



HERBICIDE TREATMENT ALONE USUALLY RESULTS IN RE INFESTATION - COMPETITION FROM DESIRABLE PASTURE PLANTS IS ESPECIALLY VALUABLE

CONTACT US



Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee

36 Church St, Glen Innes, NSW

02 6732 3443

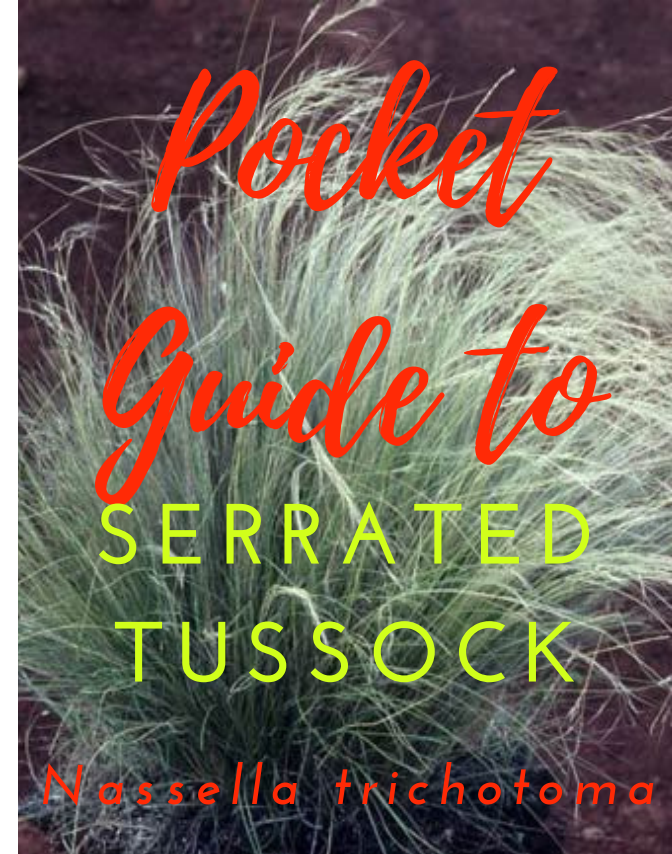
glenrac@glenrac.org.au

www.glenrac.org.au



Department of Primary Industries

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IDENTIFY THIS WEED ON THE GO



BEST INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

Identification

PLANTS

- Tussocks grow up to 60cm tall
- C3 - (winter active/summer dormant) but remain green in summer and turn golden yellow after frosts
- Drought tolerant
- 1.5-2mm long seed, enclosed in reddish-purple bracts.
- Difficult to pull from the ground, even when small, due to extensive root system

LEAVES

- Stiff and narrow; swollen leaf base, like a shallot
- Tightly rolled; rolls like a needle between fingers; cylindrical in shape; other grasses form a V or U
- Serrated leaves - not hairy; rough when running fingers down leaf
- White hairless ligule. To find: trace down leaf to the junction of leaf with the sheath, bend back the leaf and a small (1mm) white, hairless flap will protrude vertically.

LIGULES OF SIMILAR LOOKING PLANTS

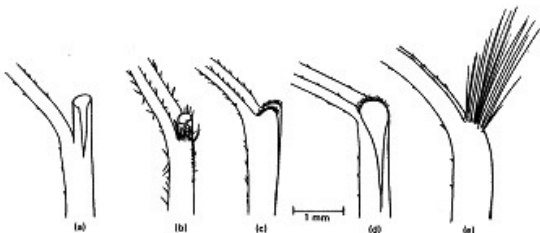


Figure 1. Ligules of (a) serrated tussock; (b) corkscrew grass; (c) snowgrass; (d) poa tussock; (e) red-anthered wallaby grass.



Thin & bare patches of pasture are at most risk of invasion. It is vital to keep good ground cover greater than 90% and avoid over grazing

Introduce a rotational grazing system to prevent overgrazing of more desirable plant species



Key Notes



Serrated tussock loves disturbed and bare soil. Avoid disc ploughing to prevent infestation.

Heavily graze or slash then plant summer crop over top with a no-till planter.



best control measures

SMALL PATCHES

- Remove isolated or small patches of plants by spot spraying or chipping - preferably before the tussocks set seed; check paddocks after spraying for missed plants.
- VERY IMPORTANT to replace with more desirable seed species. If area is left bare it will re-invade, ie: spread seed after chipping



LARGE INFESTATIONS - ENTIRE PADDOCKS

- Cropping with weed control in spring & autumn reduces weed seed bank. Control weeds for at least 1 year before sowing pasture.
- Slash when dormant or before has set seed then plant crop in with preferably a disc planter.
- Use high density stocking rate (ie: use temporary electric fence for short period of time) to knock over when dormant. This will allow Summer dominant plants to take control.
- Broadacre spray and weed wipers - consult local Weeds Authority for application rates.
- Mulching - can be used to smother ST in difficult to control areas eg: rocks or fencelines.