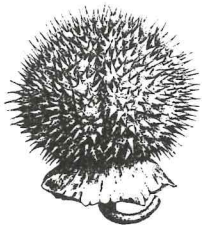


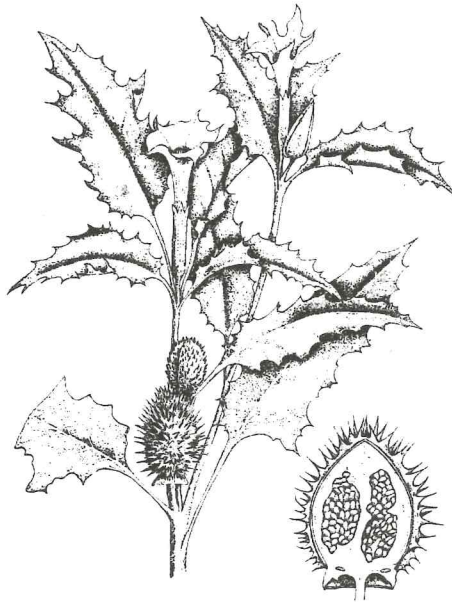
CONTROL OF THORNAPPLE



Datura metel



Datura leichardtii



Datura stramonium

There are five closely related species of thornapple (*Datura* spp.) in Western Australia. They differ mainly in the size and shape of the leaf and seed capsule.

All are found scattered in warm open situations on fertile land throughout the state. Other plants, particularly of the native species of thornapple, *Datura leichardtii*, are frequently found along rivers and creek beds in the Murchison and Pilbara.

All parts of thornapple are poisonous, especially the seeds. The plant is not normally eaten because of the unpleasant smell and bitter taste. However, some children have been poisoned by eating the seeds and stock may suffer from eating contaminated hay or chaff.

Thornapple forms a dense shrub about 0.5 to one metre high. It has grey-green leaves with wavy margins. The flowers are erect, trumpet-shaped and white to slightly pinkish in colour.

It has dark brown kidney-shaped seeds three to five millimetres long contained in large, hard, prickly seed capsules.

Control

Cultivation and grubbing

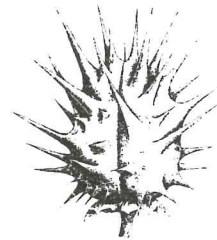
Hand pull or grub individual plants before seed set. Repeat on regrowth and newly germinated seedlings.

Chemical control

2,4-D ester (800 g/litre) KNAPSACK: 3 ml per litre of water.

2,4-D amine (500 g/litre) KNAPSACK: 4 ml of per litre of water. Add 1.5 ml wetting agent per litre water.

Glyphosate (420 g/litre) Knapsack: 10 ml per litre of water



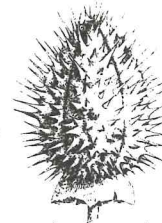
Datura ferox

Where gardens or susceptible plants are close.

Non-selective situations, where damage to other plants is unlikely or unimportant

Further Information

For advice in drawing up a thornapple control programme for your property contact your nearest Agriculture Protection Board district officer.



Datura stramonium