

National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program

PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. The purpose of this Schedule is to outline the delivery of agreed activities for the National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program from 2018-19 to 2020-21 (National Program) and to facilitate the Commonwealth's cost-shared contribution to Queensland, the combatant state for this eradication program.
2. The National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program is being conducted as a National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement-like (NEBRA-like) response as agreed by the Primary Industries Ministerial Council in 2009.
3. The emergency *Response plan for the Eradication of Tropical Weeds (Miconia, Mikania and Limnocharis) 2018-2021* (the Response Plan) was approved by National Management Group (NMG) on 19 April 2018.
4. The financial commitments are approved by the Agriculture Ministers' Forum (AGMIN) subject to budget considerations. The 2018-19 to 2020-21 budget was approved by the AGMIN on 8 April 2019. At this time AGMIN also delegated all future decision making authority to the NMG.
5. This Schedule will be reviewed in conjunction with reviews of the National Program.
6. This Schedule continues Schedule C for the National Four Tropical Weeds Eradication Program for 2015-16 to 2017-18 signed on 8 June 2016.

PART 2: FORMALITIES

7. The Parties to this Schedule are the Commonwealth of Australia and Queensland.
8. This Schedule will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth and Queensland ministers with portfolio responsibility for national biosecurity emergency management. It will expire on 30 June 2022, or upon completion or termination of the National Program as determined by the NMG, including endorsement of the final project report and processing of final payments against milestones, unless terminated earlier or extended as agreed in writing by the Parties.

PART 3: PROJECT ELEMENTS AND MILESTONES

9. The project elements of the National Program are described in the Response Plan. Queensland is responsible for delivering the following elements in accordance with the Response Plan:
 - (a) *Surveillance and Treatment*
 - i. Focus on monitoring for the presence and absence of the five target weed species, determine the extent of the infestation area and apply best practice methods to control plant populations.

- ii. Targeted surveillance of *Miconia nervosa* and a review into technical feasibility of eradication after 12 months (after 30 June 2019).
 - iii. Treatment will occur through the destruction of target weed species through either manual removal or herbicide application.
 - iv. Surveillance and treatment may be undertaken in collaboration with local government, Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and local stakeholders.
- (b) *Research*
- i. Providing accurate information on the control methods, local ecology, reproductive biology, seed bank dynamics, detection and dispersal of the target species in invaded ecosystems.
- (c) *Community engagement*
- i. Continue to engage the broader community to help identify any undetected plants, implement media campaigns, increase community engagement in northern NSW, training workshops and update and improve extension materials.

10. To qualify for the associated payment, Queensland must meet the following milestones:

Table 1: Milestones

Milestones	Due date	Payment
2018-19		
Annual progress report (2017-18) endorsed by the National Biosecurity Management Consultative Committee (NBMCC) as demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan.	June 2019	Up to \$1,486,000
2019-20		
Annual progress report (2018-19) endorsed by the NBMCC as demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan.	May 2020	Up to \$1,522,500
2020-21		
Annual progress report (2019-20) endorsed by the NBMCC as demonstrating satisfactory progress towards the above project elements as per the endorsed Response Plan.	May 2021	Up to \$1,570,500

PART 4: REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 11. Queensland will report against the agreed milestones as outlined in Table 1.
- 12. An independent review of the program will be undertaken in 2020 and presented to the NBMCC for review and endorsement. The outcomes from the independent review, where endorsed by the NBMCC, will be incorporated into revised response plans for endorsement by the NMG.
- 13. The NBMCC will review progress to eradication for *Miconia nervosa* 12 months after the commencement of the Response Plan to ascertain whether it should remain a target species of the National Program.
- 14. Circumstances may give rise to additional reporting being sought in accordance with the NEBRA-like arrangements.

PART 5: FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

15. The Commonwealth's agreed financial contribution for the national tropical weeds eradication program is outlined in Table 2 and payable in accordance with the milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are exclusive of GST.

Table 2: Estimated financial contributions

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Commonwealth	\$1,486,000	\$1,522,500	\$1,570,500

PART 6: SIGN OFF

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this Schedule as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



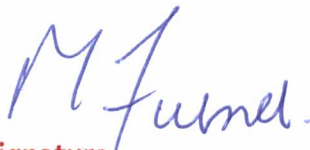
Date

30/6/2019

Signature

**Senator the Honourable Bridget McKenzie
Minister for Agriculture**

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by



Date

9/10/2019

Signature

**The Honourable Mark Furner MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries**