Why is this plant considered to be an Environmental Weed?

Glycine is a useful pasture legume but is capable of covering and smothering native trees 10 m or more in height, if not controlled. It produces large quantities of seed which can remain viable in the soil for several years. It is widespread in our Catchment, particularly along and close to water courses and on more fertile soils.

What does glycine look like?

Glycine is a twining vine with narrow, tough stems, the younger ones hairless or covered in velvety hairs. The leaves have three leaflets, the middle one with a short stalk; the leaflets are up to about 15 cm long and 12 cm wide. Plants flower in winter, when stalks of small pea-flowers appear in leaf axils, the flowers in groups of 3 or more. The flowers are white to mauve and up to 1 cm long. They are followed by pods 15-35 mm long which can be either hairless or covered in brown hairs.

How do I control glycine?

Glycine may be killed by spraying cut stems with 50% glyphosate (360 g/L) solution, or spraying entire plant with dilute glyphosate. Foliar spray with Dicamba (500g/L) at a rate of 3mL/1L water has also been recommended *. In general, treating plants while they are growing actively is most effective.

Because seeds may remain viable in the soil for several years, it is advisable to check for young seedlings at intervals and spot-spray or remove by hand.

* Be sure to read manufacturer’s instructions before using herbicides

For further information and advice, contact MCCG, PO Box 657, Kenmore. Or visit us at www.moggillcreek.org

For more information, visit https://www.daff.qld.gov.au/plants/weeds-pest-animals-ants/weeds