NOXIOUS WEED PROFILE

Pellitory/ Asthma Weed

Parietaria judaica

IDENTIFICATION

Habit: A perennial upright herb up to 1 metre in height. Commonly found growing in cracks of footpaths and brick/rock walls.
Leaves: Soft and green with white undersides, covered in fine, sticky hairs.
Stems: Pink to red in colour, covered in fine, sticky hairs.
Flowers: Very sticky, small, green-white in colour. Flowering occurs in spring and summer.
Seeds: Tiny, numerous and sticky.
Origin: Native of the Mediterranean Region

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

The pollen of pellitory may cause conjunctivitis, asthma, rhinitis and other allergic reactions.

The plant grows and produces seed rapidly and is dispersed by wind, water and attachment to clothing and animals. Its spread is rapid and regrowth is persistent.

Asthma Weed is declared as a class 4 Noxious Weed in the City of Randwick and many other areas under the **Noxious Weed Act 1993.** This means that *the weed must be prevented from spreading and its numbers and distribution reduced*.

METHODS OF REMOVAL

Foliage spraying with an approved herbicide is possibly the most effective treatment method for Pellitory.
Pellitory could be removed by hand making sure that gloves, facemask and protective clothing are worn.
Follow up after initial removal is essential, as it is likely to re-grow from a taproot numerous times before it is eradicated.

When using herbicide to control weeds the user has a legal obligation to read the herbicide manufacturer's label and apply the herbicide in accordance with that label. Responsible use of herbicides protects human health and the natural environment.

For enquiries regarding Noxious Weeds contact Council's Biodiversity Officer on:
Ph (02) 9399 0683 or 1300 722 542.