

# slender ice plant

*Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum*



Also known as: small ice plant, ice plant

## About

- Native to South Africa and Mediterranean.
- A small, succulent, winter-growing annual weed.
- Glistening crystals of salt along the stems during its early growth.
- After setting seed, the plant characteristically changes from green to red before dying.



## Need to know

- Has invaded Salmon Gum woodland.
- Creates a mini saline environment around itself.
- Produces plentiful seed, which remains viable for many years.
- Poisonous to stock
- Contains high levels of sodium, which seems to attract sheep, and high levels of oxalate, which can poison sheep
- The plant is most toxic when it is dead.



## WHAT YOU CAN DO



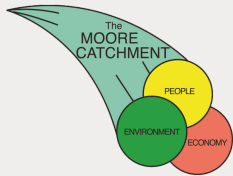
**PULL IT OUT**



**SPOT SPRAY**  
Before flowering



**REMOVE PLANTS**



# CONTROL slender ice plant



## The Life Cycle

Calendar Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Germination				Y	Y	Y	O	O				
Active Growth				O	O	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Flowering	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	Y	Y	Y	Y
Fruiting	Y	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	Y	Y	Y
Manual Removal	O				O	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Herbicide Treatment					O	Y	Y	Y	Y			

**Legend:** Y = Yes, regularly, O = Occasionally, U = Uncertain, referred by others but not confirmed.

Source: <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2813>  
(Life cycle of similar species: *Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*)

## IT SPREADS BY SEED



**PULL IT OUT**

- Don't leave the pulled plant on the ground as the salt from leaves will stop other plants from growing.



**SPOT SPRAY**

Read the manufacturers' labels and material safety data sheets before spraying.

- Logran® at 12.5 g/100L + the penetrant Pulse® is very effective with little offtarget damage in coastal heathlands.
- Apply herbicide before flowering.
- Follow spray regularly in the season and over years until seedbank is exhausted.

Source: e: <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/2813>  
(Recommended for similar species: *Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*)

## Suggestions

Follow up slender iceplant removal with planting salt tolerant species...

