

soursob

Oxalis pes-caprae



Also known as: sour grass, bermuda buttercup

About

- A native of South Africa.
- Small herb, to 40 cm, with yellow flowers that carpet bushland.
- Clover-like, three heart-shaped spotted or marked leaves.
- Major threat to the conservation values of Banksia woodlands and South-West Province.
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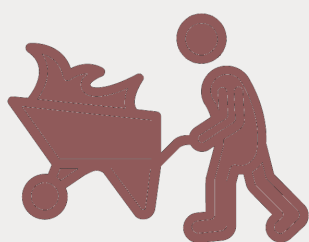
Photo: Sheldon Navie



Need to know

- Invasive weed of bushland often forming monoculture patches that can displace most native species after disturbance.
- Some evidence it influences soil phosphorous cycling.
- Soil disturbance can greatly enhance invasion.
- Manual removal can result in spread of bulbils.

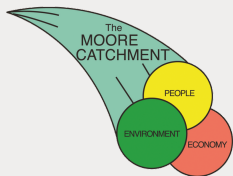
WHAT YOU CAN DO



MULCH



SPOT SPRAY



CONTROL sour sob

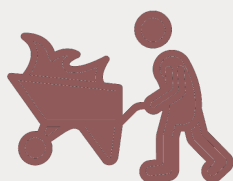
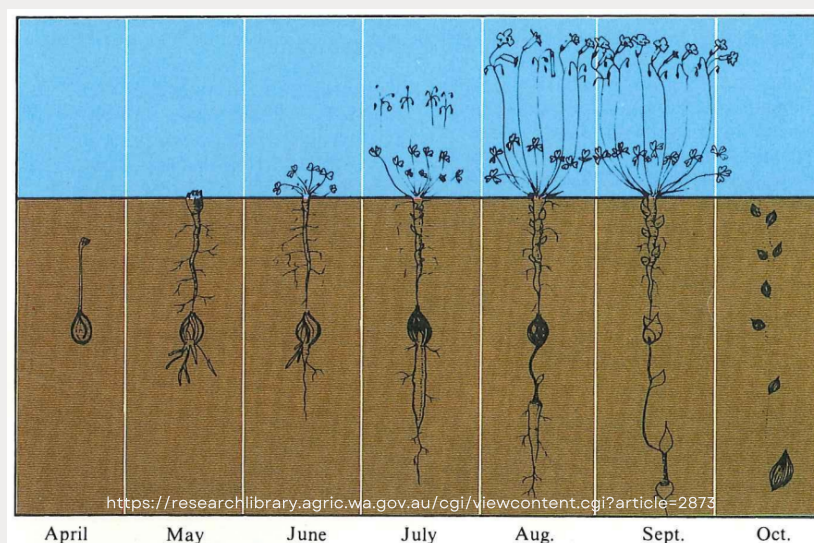


The Life Cycle

Calendar Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dormant	Y	Y	Y								Y	Y
Active Growth				Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Flowering						Y	Y	Y	Y			
Optimum Treatment						Y	Y					

Source: <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/4356>

IT SPREADS BY BULBILS (Small underground offshoots)



MULCH

- Cover in newspaper and mulch.
- Best done prior to emergence.

Source: <https://clmconnections.wordpress.com/2014/08/28/what-weed-is-this-soursob-oxalis/>



SPOT SPRAY

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

- Spot spray metsulfuron methyl 0.2 g/15 L + Pulse®, or 1% glyphosate.
- Apply at bulb exhaustion, generally just on flowering

Source: <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/4356>