

# spiny rush

*Juncus acutus*



Also known as: sharp rush, cultivation rush

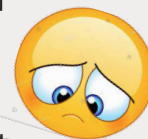
## About

- Found in wet areas, native wetlands and swamps
- Can be confused with native rushes. Spiny rush stems end in very sharp, rigid points. The native rush has softer foliage and the flowers are smaller.



## Need to know

- Once established, eliminates all other vegetation.
- Makes areas impenetrable to stock and humans
- Harbours rabbits and other pests
- Produces up to 4,000 seeds per plant that germinate readily with suitable conditions
- Once established, difficult to control without destroying the environment.



## WHAT YOU CAN DO



### PULL IT OUT

Easier when it's small



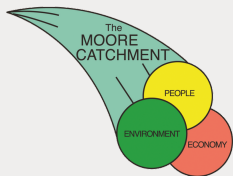
### SPOT SPRAY

Best before flowering  
**NEVER IN WATERWAYS**



### DESTROY

**FLOWERS and SEEDS**



# CONTROL spiny rush



## The Life Cycle

Calendar Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Active Growth							Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Germination	O	O	O	O	Y	Y	O	O	O	O	O	O
Flowering										Y	Y	Y
Fruiting	Y	Y										Y
Manual Removal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Herbicide Treatment (Depends on presence of water)	Y	Y	Y	O	O				O	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/1175>

## IT SPREADS BY SEED

Also sometimes from crown fragments



**PULL IT OUT**



**SPOT SPRAY**

- It's shallow rooted
- Roots need to be severed
- Much easier when it's small
- Very important to **destroy seeds**



- **NEVER SPRAY IN WETLAND AREAS**
- No herbicides are registered in WA
- Glyphosate at 20 ml per litre plus wetter can be effective
- Apply herbicide when plant is actively growing

Source: [https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/conservation-management/off-road-conservation/urban-nature/workshops/proceedings\\_of\\_the\\_managing\\_sharp\\_rush\\_juncus\\_acutus\\_works.pdf](https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/conservation-management/off-road-conservation/urban-nature/workshops/proceedings_of_the_managing_sharp_rush_juncus_acutus_works.pdf)

## Suggestions

- Check for spiny rush upstream.
- Remove it while there are only a few to stop it spreading.
- For large areas, start with smaller infestations on the perimeter.