

Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 30 August 2013

ALL OVER FOR YELLOW MIMOSA

Environment Minister Robyn Parker today announced that Yellow Mimosa has been listed as a feral native plant species under native vegetation regulations.

"The listing of Yellow Mimosa as a feral native plant enables landholders to clear the plant without approval from their Catchment Management Authority (CMA), provided they adhere to some simple conditions," Ms Parker said.

"Yellow Mimosa has previously been treated as a native plant because it was present in Australia prior to European settlement.

"Evidence suggests that Yellow Mimosa, common in Central America, was first present in northern Australia through a series of human migrations prior to 1770.

"As an invasive species it can reduce habitat quality for native animals and decrease groundcover, impacting biodiversity and potentially increasing soil erosion.

"It is found across 23 million hectares in NSW, on land used for conservation and agriculture.

"The listing of Yellow Mimosa as a feral native plant species is a win for farmers and the environment."

The Country Women's Association has also taken a keen interest in the issue. Mrs Tanya Cameron, President of the CWA of NSW welcomed the decision.

"Mimosa bush is widespread and it has a devastating impact on land management – so it's great to see it recognised as a feral species," Mrs Cameron said.

"The CWA has worked hard for a logical solution to this issue and I thank the NSW Government for their commitment to make it happen."

If landholders are unsure about Yellow Mimosa and want to know more about clearing conditions they should contact their local CMA.

The decision is based on a report into Yellow Mimosa by the Natural Resources Commission which recommended it be listed as a feral native species.

Yellow Mimosa pictures and information: plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au