Brazilian cherry (Non Restricted Invasive Weed)  
*Eugenia uniflora*

This native of South America, sold as an ornamental hedge and fruit tree, prefers moist fertile soils.

The attractive and tasty fruits are very appealing to fruit-eating birds. Once deposited into bushland areas, they quickly grow to become an invasive plant – especially in rainforest and riparian areas.

The dense nature of the foliage outcompetes native shrubs and ground covers and can prevent tree seedling regeneration.

Brazilian cherry is an invasive plant which can disrupt native flora communities and ecosystems.

**Description**

Growing as a shrub to 3-4m in height, the leaves are dark green, but new growth has a rich bronze colour.

The unusual fruits are orange to dark red in colour and grow to about the size of a normal cherry. However, they are deeply ribbed into 8 segments – giving them a distinctive identification feature. They set fruit in autumn and ripen in spring.

**Management**

Birds are attracted to the bright coloured fruits and are the main method of spread for this weed. Removal of the plant should be done before the fruit ripens, especially if the material is to be chipped or mulched. Care needs to be taken when using heavy equipment, as the trees are usually growing in amongst other native plants. Small seedlings can be successfully hand pulled. The entire tap-root should be removed.