Native to tropical America, golden dewdrops was introduced to Australia as an ornamental. It now invades disturbed areas of native vegetation and road embankments and is spread long distances by birds and the dumping of garden refuse.

Declaration details
Golden dewdrops is a not declared plant under the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*; however, plants that are not declared under state legislation may have control requirements imposed by local governments.

Description and general information
Golden dewdrops is a vigorous shrub or small tree to 7 m high. It has drooping, spiny branches and leaves that are opposite, stalked, egg-shaped and 2–8 cm long.

Blue tubular flowers around 1 cm long occur in sprays up to 20 cm long develop into bright yellow round fruits 5–10 mm across.

Control
Manual control
Hand pull seedlings and small plants, making sure you remove all the roots. Try to limit seed setting of larger plants until infested areas can be treated with herbicide. If plants are cut down, the stump must be immediately treated with a suitable herbicide or the shrub will reshoot.
Herbicide control

There is no herbicide currently registered for control of golden dewdrops in Queensland; however, there is an off-label use permit (Permit No. PER11463) that allows the use of various herbicides for the control of environmental weeds in non-agricultural areas, bushland, forests, wetlands, and coastal and adjacent areas.

See Table 1 for treatment options allowed by the permit.

It is important to note that specific research on the use of herbicides to control golden dewdrops has not been undertaken to date. Therefore, the treatment options outlined in Table 1 are suggestions only, based on registered controls for similar weeds in non-agricultural areas and the specifications of PER11463. As such, their effectiveness cannot be guaranteed.

Prior to using the chemicals listed under PER11463 you must read or have read to you and understand the conditions of the permit. To obtain a copy of this permit contact your local council weed inspector or visit www.apvma.gov.au.

Follow up

Monitor treated areas should be monitored regularly for any new seedlings or regrowth.

Further information

Further information is available from your local government office, or by contacting Biosecurity Queensland (call 13 25 23 or visit our website at www.deedi.qld.gov.au).

Table 1. Herbicides registered for the control of golden dewdrops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Herbicide</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Registration status</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spot spray young plants</td>
<td>Metsulfuron-methyl (600 g/kg)</td>
<td>10 g per 100 L water plus wetting agent</td>
<td>APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014</td>
<td>Read permit carefully prior to use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot spray young plants</td>
<td>2,4-D (300 g/L) + picloram (75 g/L)</td>
<td>1 L per 100 L water plus wetting agent</td>
<td>APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014</td>
<td>Read permit carefully prior to use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spot spray</td>
<td>Fluoroxypr (200 g/L)</td>
<td>500 ml to 1 L per 100 L water</td>
<td>APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014</td>
<td>Read permit carefully prior to use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basal bark or cut stump</td>
<td>Triclopyr (240 g/L) + picloram (120 g/L)</td>
<td>1 L per 60 L diesel</td>
<td>APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014</td>
<td>Read permit carefully prior to use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basal bark</td>
<td>Fluoroxypr (200 g/L)</td>
<td>35 ml per 1 L diesel/kerosene</td>
<td>APVMA permit PER11463 Permit expires 30/06/2014</td>
<td>Read permit carefully prior to use</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read the label carefully before use. Always use the herbicide in accordance with the directions on the label.

Source: PER11463