



Pampas Grass

(Cortaderia selloana)

- **Origin** – South America
- **Growth Habit** - Large clumping, tufted tussock
- **Fruit** - Seeds with long fine hairs
- **Habitat** – Open sunny moist sites, grows in a number of soil types
- **Flower** – Large and feather-like, white to cream or silver

Plant Description

Pampas Grass is a tufted plant growing up to 4m in height. Large feathery flowers are produced at the ends of upright spikes in summer through to autumn. The female plant can produce a large number of wind-dispersed seeds which have long fine hairs. The grey-green leaves are large and rough with sharp edges.

Impacts

Pampas Grass infiltrates natural bushland where it forms dense thickets and out-competes vegetation. This alters habitat for native fauna causing a decline in animal numbers. Pampas Grass is readily found in sunny areas especially where it has access to moisture. However, the plants are also drought tolerant.

City of Rockingham Local Law 2000

Pampas Grass is listed as a Pest Plant under City of Rockingham Pest Plants Local Law 2000. Under this law, City of Rockingham may serve on the owner or occupier of private land notice requiring the destruction, eradication or otherwise control of any pest plant on that land.

Control Method

Cut out or dig out small plants and remove from site. Larger plants, remove flower heads and slash or burn clumps. Small plants can be treated with 13ml/L Fusilade Forte® + spray oil or; Spray leaves with 4% glyphosate, any regrowth can be treated with 1% glyphosate in spring.

Further Information

- Florabase, <https://florabase.dpaw.wa.gov.au/browse/profile/277>
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/weeds/plants-invade-bushland?page=0%2C5>

