

GAMBA GRASS TREATMENT METHODS AND TIMING

Adapted from the Northern Territory Government's Gamba Grass Management Guide (Department of Environment and Natural Resources)

Gamba Grass typical growth phases

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Flowering												
Seed fall												
Germination												
Plant growth												

Gamba Grass optimal treatment timing

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
*Chemicals - Granular										✓	✓	✓
Chemicals - Foliar spraying	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓
Mechanical removal – hand pulling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓
Slashing or grazing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						✓	✓
**Burning	✓	✓	✓	✓								✓

* For industrial areas only, e.g. managing Gamba Grass around infrastructure. Always read label before use. Only use where granules will not cause off-target damage or become washed into waterways

**Permit to burn may be required

	General growth pattern
✓	Months most suitable
	Months less suitable
	Months not suitable

Note: Slashing, grazing and burning are effective ways to reduce fuel load of Gamba Grass and generate fresh green regrowth. This regrowth is ideal for chemical treatment. Slashing, grazing and burning alone do not kill most Gamba Grass. To destroy Gamba Grass plants fully, chemical treatment or mechanical removal is needed.

The Northern Territory Weed Management Handbook contains further information about best methods and timing to manage Gamba Grass.

Components of a successful Gamba Grass work plan may include:

- spraying Gamba Grass plants with a backpack, tank on quad bike, or handgun from Quikspray
- spreading residual pellet herbicides by hand
- pulling up plants and lifting them off the soil so they stop growing
- checking previously infested and treated sites to see if any plants remain
- surveying for and treating Gamba Grass plants along road corridors, disturbed areas, places where infrastructure works have occurred and places where people go hunting/camping/fishing
- undertaking regular equipment and vehicle wash-downs to prevent seed transportation
- documenting Gamba Grass location and treatment data each season

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