



## Weed Management Information

### Privet – narrow leaf

**Other names:** Chinese privet, small-leaf privet

**Botanical name:** *Ligistrum sinense*

**Weed Class:** Not listed as a noxious weed

#### Control options

**Mechanical Control:** Pull up all small plants and hang up away from ground level. For the best results, pull after rain when the ground is still moist.

**Mowing/ Cutting:** This method is appropriate for small initial populations or environmentally sensitive areas where herbicides cannot be used. Repeated mowing or cutting will control the spread of privet, but will not eradicate it. Stems should be cut at least once per growing season as close to ground level as possible. Cut larger plants off well below ground level and mulch stump or plant may take regrow from any exposed roots.

**Chemical Control:** Use a herbicide that is registered for use in NSW and in a manner and rate stated on the label (or a current pesticide order). Seek advice from a Council Vegetation Officer or your herbicide supplier. Please ensure the chosen product is suitable for the designated land use and situation. Please observe all environmental and safety cautions that are stated on the label.

#### Description

A much-branched, hardy, evergreen, fast-growing shrub to 4m, formerly used extensively for hedging.

**Stems:** Covered in lenticels (white dots) tall multi-stemmed shrub

**Leaves:** Dark green ovals with a pointed tip, to 6cm long and often with a wavy margin.

**Flowers:** Masses of heavily-scented tiny white tubular flowers occur in drooping sprays in spring. They are highly allergenic.

**Fruit:** Sprays of small round blue-black berries persist into winter.

**Dispersal:** One plant may produce up to a million seeds, which are spread into bush land by birds, and are also washed down waterways. Narrow-leaf privet seedlings grow like a carpet in creek line silt deposits.



**Narrow leaf privet**

**Flowers**

Photos: J Miles and M Campbell

**For further information:** Councils Vegetation Officers Ph: (02) 6499 2222

**Helpful websites** [www.southeastweeds.org.au](http://www.southeastweeds.org.au)  
[www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds](http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds)

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