



## Declared Plant Policy

*This policy relates to natural resources management under section 9(1)(d) of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 (the Act), enabling co-ordinated implementation and promotion of sound management programs and practices for the use, development or protection of natural resources of the State. Specifically, this policy provides guidance on the use and management of natural resources relating to the prevention or control of impacts caused by pest species of plants that may have an adverse effect on the environment, primary production or the community, as per object s7(1)(f) of the Act.*

### miconia (*Miconia* spp.)

*Miconia* is a genus of about 1000 tropical shrubs and trees. Four species of *Miconia* have been found as weeds in Queensland, and are subject to a national eradication program. Consequently, all States and Territories have agreed on its uniform national declaration.

### Management Plan for Miconia

#### Outcomes

- Prevent any supply of miconia by growers in South Australia to other States where they may be invasive weeds.

#### Objectives

- To prevent any trade in miconia.

#### Best Practce Implementation

- Compliance action in the event of miconia plants being produced in South Australia for sale.

#### Regional Implementation

Refer to regional management plans for further details.

Region	Actions
Alinytjara Wilurara	Prohibit sale and movement
Eyre Peninsula	Prohibit sale and movement
Green Adelaide	Prohibit sale and movement
Hills and Fleurieu	Prohibit sale and movement
Kangaroo Island	Prohibit sale and movement
Limestone Coast	Prohibit sale and movement
Murraylands and Riverland	Prohibit sale and movement
Northern and Yorke	Prohibit sale and movement
South Australian Arid Lands	Prohibit sale and movement

#### Declaration

To implement this policy, miconia is declared under the *Landscape South Australia Act 2019* throughout the whole of the State of South Australia so that any further sale or movement of

## miconia policy

the plant can be prevented. Its entry to South Australia, movement or transport on a public road by itself or as a contaminant, or sale by itself or as a contaminant are prohibited.

Miconia is declared in category 3 under the Act for the purpose of setting maximum penalties and for other purposes. Any permit to allow its entry, sale or road transport can only be issued by the regional landscape board or Green Adelaide pursuant to section 197.

Under the *Landscape South Australia (General) Regulations 2020*, Regulation 27 specifies the conditions under which a person is exempt from the operation of section 186 and may transport wool, grain or other produce or goods carrying miconia on public roads, or bring them into the State. Regulation 28 specifies conditions under which a person is exempt from the operation of section 188(2) and may sell wool, grain or other produce or goods carrying miconia. Note that certain produce or goods may be excluded from these general movement and sale exemptions by Gazettal Notice of the Chief Executive of the Department for Environment and Water.

The following sections of the Act apply to miconia throughout each of the regions noted below:

Sections of Act	Region								
	AW	EP	GA	HF	KI	LC	MR	NY	SAAL
186(1) Prohibiting entry to area	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
186(2) Prohibiting movement on public roads	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
188(1) Prohibiting sale of the plant	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
188(2) Prohibiting sale of contaminated goods	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
190 Requiring notification of presence									
192(1) Land owners to destroy the plant on their properties									
192(2) Land owners to control the plant on their properties									
194 Recovery of control costs on adjoining road reserves									

### Review

Success of the program will be measured by its effectiveness in stopping any reported supply of miconias from SA to other States. This policy is to be reviewed by 2025.

### Weed Risk

#### Invasiveness

Miconia species are rapidly growing seral plants mainly found in rainforest regrowth. They are spread by fruit-eating birds and animals, but long range movement in Australia has been mainly by cultivation.

#### Impacts

Miconias invade and displace native vegetation in tropical Australia.

#### Potential distribution

Miconias are not frost hardy, and would need glasshouse protection to grow in South Australia.

## Feasibility of Containment

No production nursery in this State is growing miconia as there is no demand for these plants in our Mediterranean-type climate.

### Current distribution

Not present in South Australia.

## State Level Risk Assessment

Assessment using the Biosecurity SA Weed Risk Management System gave the following comparative weed risk and feasibility of containment scores by land use:

Land use	Weed Risk	Feasibility of control	Response at State Level
Native vegetation	negligible 0	very high 1	monitor

*Miconia* species are unlikely to survive anywhere in the wild in South Australia, and have no potential as weeds in this State.

## Considerations

Some *Miconia* species have been grown in the wet tropics as ornamental shrubs for their large attractive leaves. They are not used by the ornamental nursery industry in South Australia.

Miconia has been declared under the Act to support the national eradication program.

## Synonymy

*Miconia* Ruiz & Pav., Fl. Peruv. Prodr. 60 (1794); about 1000 species, of which the following four are of concern in Queensland:

*Miconia calvescens* DC., Prodr. (DC.) 3: 185 (1828).

*Miconia cionotricha* Uribe, Caldasia 9: 88 (1964).

*Miconia nervosa* Triana, Trans. Linn. Soc. London 28: 111 (1872).

*Miconia racemosa* (Aubl.) DC, Prodr. (DC.) 3: 179 (1828).

Basionym: *Melastoma racemosum* Aubl., Pl. Guian. 1: 406 (1775).

## References

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (2009) 'National Four Tropical Weeds Eradication Program - Annual Report 2008-2009'. 65 pp.

Hon David Speirs MP  
**Minister for Environment and Water**

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