

BITOU BUSH CONFIRMED TO BE ON NORFOLK ISLAND

Bitou Bush, *Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. rotundata* was recently confirmed to be present on Norfolk Island by the scientists from Agriculture Victoria Research, who were here carrying out the recent terrestrial plant component of the Pest and Disease Survey for the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.



Bitou Bush is one of Australia's worst weeds because of its environmental impacts, invasive ability and potential to spread. The good news is that we only know of one small infestation on Norfolk Island and the property owners are already well advanced in controlling it! We are interested in finding out if anyone else may have seen this plant on their property or somewhere on Norfolk Island.

Bitou Bush is a perennial shrub that grows to 3m high and 6m wide with yellow daisy like flowers and semi-succulent leaves that are a broad oval shape with smooth, or only slightly toothed, edges. The fruits are fleshy, egg shaped and turn from green to black when mature and contain a single seed.

If you think you have seen any Bitou Bush on Norfolk Island please contact Tara Patel on 22001 ext.140 for assistance in identification and control. Prevention and early intervention are the most cost-effective forms of weed control. It is vital we keep Norfolk free of Bitou Bush.



Tara Patel
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

31 May 2022

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