

DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES



VICTORIAN BLACKBERRY STRATEGY 2008 - 2013



THE VISION OF THE VICTORIAN BLACKBERRY TASKFORCE IS A FUTURE WHERE THE COMMUNITY UNDERSTANDS THE IMPACT BLACKBERRY HAS ON BIODIVERSITY AND LAND PRODUCTIVITY, AND TAKES ACTION. THIS NEW STRATEGY SHOWCASES THE INTEGRAL ROLE OF THE VICTORIAN BLACKBERRY TASKFORCE IN VICTORIA, THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTMENT AND PARTNERSHIP AND THE PLANNED ACHIEVEMENTS IT WILL DELIVER.



ACRONYMS

CMA	Catchment Management Authority
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DPI	Department of Primary Industries
DSE	Department of Sustainability and Environment
NBT	National Blackberry Taskforce
VBT	Victorian Blackberry Taskforce
VBS	Victorian Blackberry Strategy

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FOREWORD

BLACKBERRY IS AMONG VICTORIA'S MOST DESTRUCTIVE AND CHALLENGING WEEDS. DESPITE CONSIDERABLE INVESTMENT AND INNOVATION IN CONTROL ACTIVITIES OVER MANY DECADES, IT REMAINS A GROWING THREAT TO OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AS WELL AS TO OUR AGRICULTURAL AND TOURISM INDUSTRIES.

While new approaches to blackberry control, such as rust fungus, are achieving some success, there is no easy or rapid solution to tackling this pest plant.

The Victorian Blackberry Taskforce is charged with renewing the battle against blackberry across the state.

A review of the previous Victorian Blackberry Strategy was conducted in 2001. It has guided the development of this Victorian Blackberry Strategy to help minimise the spread of blackberry and reduce its impact.

The strategy sets out the vision for controlling blackberry across the state, with goals, objectives and accompanying strategic actions for the next five years.

It recognises an integrated and long-term approach across public and private land is needed. State, regional and local organisations as well as communities and private landowners must all assume greater responsibility for action.

Appropriate resources are required and partnerships are critical. Activities must be coordinated as well as ecologically and socially sustainable.

Only by working together in a community-led attack over the long term will we make headway against blackberry.

I encourage you to get involved in control activities and initiatives in your local area and help reduce the spread and impacts of this noxious weed.

Lyn Coulston

Lyn Coulston
Chair – Victorian Blackberry Taskforce





THE CONTEXT

BLACKBERRY IS ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S 20 WEEDS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE AND ONE OF VICTORIA'S FOUR STATE PRIORITY WEEDS DUE TO ITS HIGHLY INVASIVE NATURE, POTENTIAL TO SPREAD AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC DAMAGE IT CAUSES.

It is a Regionally Controlled weed in all of Victoria's Catchment Management Regions except the Mallee, which means landowners must take reasonable steps to control its growth and spread in accordance with the Catchment & Land Protection Act, 1994.

Blackberry was introduced to Australia by European settlers. While there is evidence it was growing in a Sydney garden in the late 1830s, it wasn't until 1842 that blackberry was first recorded as being deliberately introduced from Europe to Adelaide for its fruit. Nine species were growing in Melbourne's new Royal Botanic Gardens in 1851, and the first director of the gardens, Baron Ferdinand von Mueller, initially championed blackberry as a source of food for settlers.

While the invasiveness and destructiveness of blackberry was recognised by the 1880s, despite considerable action to tackle it, the weed now covers nine per cent of Australia (Page & Lacey 2006).

Blackberry threatens our biodiversity and affects almost nine million ha of grazing land. It costs approximately \$100 million annually in

control and lost production (Page & Lacey 2006). This is a rise of \$60 million compared to survey results in the 1980s (Bruzese & Lane 1996).

The environmental costs of blackberry remain to be quantified but are undoubtedly high.

Cultivars from the genus *Rubus* are grown commercially across all Australian states except the Northern Territory. The total annual production of *Rubus* fruit in Australia is expected to grow beyond the gross value of the current \$10 million annually (Australian *Rubus* Growers Association 2005).

VICTORIAN BLACKBERRY TASK FORCE

The Victorian Blackberry Taskforce was formed in 2001 to help tackle the spread and impacts of blackberry. The taskforce works on a diverse range of weed control programs in partnership with state, regional and local natural resource managers,

as well as community organisations and private landholders.

One of three Victorian Community Weed Model Groups, the main role of the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce is to provide strategic direction to government and the community for blackberry control projects. It has a strong emphasis on encouraging and supporting community participation in blackberry control by adopting new approaches, community capacity building and providing incentives for action.

The taskforce includes representatives from Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs), Landcare and community groups, the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF), the Victorian Catchment Management Council (VCMC), Department of Primary Industries (DPI), Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) and Parks Victoria.



BLACKBERRY - THE WEED (*Rubus fruticosus aggregate*)

There are 15 closely related but distinct species of European blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* L. agg.). Commonly referred to as 'weedy blackberry', at least nine of these are growing in Victoria, some with subspecies and possibly hybrids.

If left unchecked, blackberry forms a thorny, sprawling and impenetrable thicket that can reach over four metres in height. It has biennial canes and a hardy and long-living root system.

It reproduces through seed and can propagate through root suckers and by daughter plants when stems contact the soil. Some blackberry plants in Australia are known to produce 30,000 seeds annually.

Blackberry is a successful weed because of its hardiness, vigorous growth, its effective seed distribution by fruit-eating birds and mammals, its ability to propagate vegetatively from cane tips and because its prickliness makes it objectionable to most grazing animals.

HOW IT SPREADS

Blackberry invasion and establishment relies on three factors. It needs a place to grow, a way to get to that site and it must be able to compete against other plant species.

Blackberry is unlikely to establish where other plants compete successfully against it, so it usually establishes where competition is removed or reduced to a level where it has an advantage. It can be carried to a site by water, attachment, by birds and other animals that eat it as well as by humans.

Land is particularly susceptible to blackberry invasion following a disturbance, such as bushfire, and the greater the disturbance the more likelihood of invasion. The worst blackberry problems often occur in areas that feature bare, soft soil, high nutrient availability, moist conditions and high light intensity.

Expected changes in Victoria's temperature and rainfall, although based on global warming models, indicate a reduction in the potential distribution of blackberry, with large areas of the state remaining climatically suitable for its establishment (Steel et al 2007). This is indicative data and provides no basis to relax control programs.

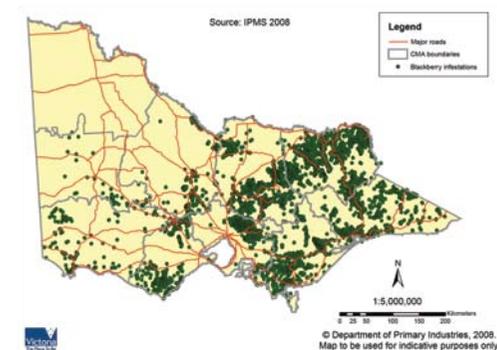
DISTRIBUTION

Blackberry can be found in areas with greater than 700 mm annual rainfall, mainly on fertile soils. While the blackberry aggregate has probably reached the climatic limits (rainfall and temperature) of its potential range in Victoria, individual species have not. Figure 1 illustrates the widespread distribution of blackberry in Victoria.

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Effective management of blackberry requires an integrated approach using a combination of control measures. These include slashing, grazing, fire, 'grubbing', herbicides and biological control. The key aim of a blackberry management plan should be to prevent new infestations, reduce current infestations and rehabilitate infested land.

FIGURE 1
(Distribution of blackberry in Victoria)



BIOSECURITY AND PEST MANAGEMENT

An informed science-based approach through the internationally recognised Weed Risk Assessment process has been central to recognising that all weeds are not equal and some pose a far greater risk than others. The process also allows forecasting of tomorrow's main threats. For example, at least eight new invasive plants establish in Victoria every year, each with potentially disastrous consequences. Of these, at least one or two will become major problems for government and the community, imposing significant expense through lost production, degraded natural environments and amenity and lifestyle impacts.

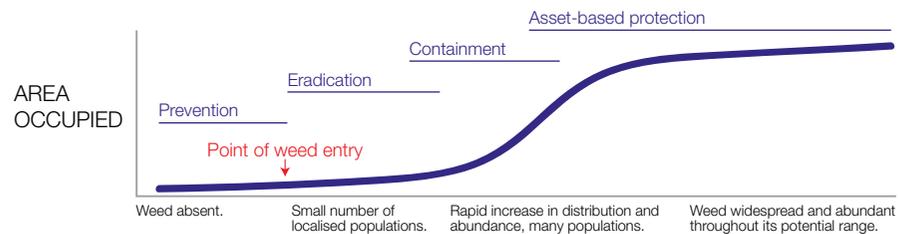
The rate of new pest plant introductions is increasing with globalisation. Expansion of overseas travel and trade has increased risk to Victoria's natural and productive resources. New pest problems emerge from a range of sources including retail trade (such as nurseries and online sellers) and changing environmental conditions (climate change). These introductions can also be accidental (fodder contaminants).

Recently, Victoria and Australia have adopted a biosecurity approach to management. Informed by the pest invasion curve (see Figure 2), this approach adopts a risk-based strategy to intervention featuring four key responses: prevention, eradication, containment and asset protection.

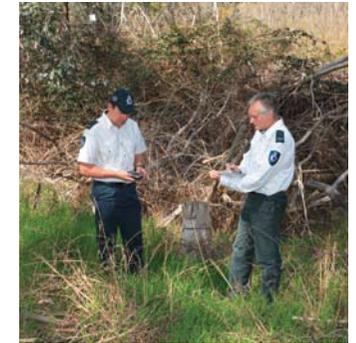
A key objective of this approach is to ensure early detection of and rapid action against new pest problems. Preventing serious new introductions is significantly cheaper and less time-consuming than waiting until a species spreads to a larger area. The approach also considers the level of economic, environmental and social impact of a particular species.

Although there is a greater focus on new and emerging pest plants, widespread weeds such as blackberry, gorse and serrated tussock are ranked highly based on their social, environmental and economic impacts.

FIGURE 2



Only by working together in a community-led attack over the long-term will we make headway against blackberry.



“THE WIDER COMMUNITY ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY FOR BLACKBERRY CONTROL AND CONTRIBUTES TO ON-GOING PROTECTION OF SOCIAL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC ASSETS THROUGH REDUCING THE IMPACT OF BLACKBERRY IN VICTORIA.”

SCOPE

The Victorian Blackberry Strategy recognises that a community-led attack on blackberry requires a state-wide strategic framework. It aims to encourage the involvement of other agencies and groups as well as increased support, incentives and investment in sustainable land-use in Victoria, and particularly the control of blackberry.

It should guide future partnerships and help us work together to achieve healthy catchments. This strategy takes an integrated approach across regions and catchments as well as at the local and farm levels. Particular consideration is given to production, environmental and social factors affecting blackberry control.

DIRECTION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THIS STRATEGY ARE INFORMED BY:

The Victorian Pest Management Framework - this identifies key actions and management strategies developed for particular pest plants and animals in Victoria. It provides direction and guiding principles for the Victorian Blackberry Strategy.

The National Blackberry Strategy - this sets the vision to reduce the impacts of blackberry in Australia and to stop its spread and establishment. It sets the direction for state planning and establishes a coordinated process for managing blackberry across the nation.

The Victorian Blackberry Strategy will contribute to achieving the three national outcomes of the National Blackberry Strategy:

1. Prevent, contain and rehabilitate blackberry infestations.
2. Adoption of 'best management' practices nationally.
3. National commitment to the effective management of blackberries is maintained.

The Victorian Weed Management Strategy - this strategy sits within the Victorian Pest Management Framework and provides direction and strategic actions for managing blackberry. Key goals of the Victorian Weed Management Strategy incorporated into the Victorian Blackberry Strategy are:

- Significant reduction in the impact of existing weed problems.
- Effective working partnerships built for progressive weed management.
- Continuous improvement through review and evaluation.
- Catchment Regional Weed Action Plans support the implementation of this strategy.



GOALS

The Victorian Blackberry Strategy has five goals:

1. Create greater community responsibility for integrated blackberry control.
2. Maximise opportunities to expand investment in an ongoing blackberry control program.
3. Ensure blackberry programs are delivered and managed so they are ecologically and socially sustainable.
4. Ensure strategic blackberry management is coordinated across all land tenures.
5. Strengthen the capabilities and capacity of Victorian communities to anticipate and adjust to economic, social and environmental challenges and opportunities, ensuring ongoing commitment to blackberry control practices.

These goals will be achieved through:

- providing strategic direction to government and the community
- incorporating government policy and action plans
- ongoing investor commitment to the blackberry program
- efficient and equitable resource allocation
- effective partnerships with industry and communities.

KEY GUIDING DOCUMENTS

- Australian Weeds Strategy, 2007
- National Blackberry Strategy, 2001
- Victorian Pest Management – A Framework for Action
- Victorian Weed Management Strategy
- Regional Catchment Strategies
- Victorian Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994
- The Future Farming Strategy, Department of Primary Industries, 2008

Opportunities for innovation, partnerships and investment

The Victorian Blackberry Taskforce has contributed to the outcomes of various strategies and believes integration is critical for achieving the large-scale goals for blackberry management. Our partnerships across the Victorian Government and with local governments, Catchment Management Authorities, community groups and industry are essential to developing a holistic approach to blackberry management and will continue evolving and strengthening.

Significant potential exists to work with other Victorian groups, agencies, organisations and departments on blackberry control. We will build new partnerships and links with innovative projects to share resources, knowledge, ideas and creative energy. These partnerships will result in cost savings and see new technologies and strategies developed for sustainable resource use in Victoria.

A collaborative approach is essential across all tiers of government with different land tenures. The variety of activities undertaken to implement this strategy represents a focus not just on weeds as the problem but sustainable land management as the solution. We will actively seek feedback from all stakeholders and potential partners.

STRATEGIC ACTIONS

ACTION	PARTNERSHIPS	WHEN	OUTCOME
OBJECTIVE: BLACKBERRY MANAGEMENT IS COORDINATED AT A STATE LEVEL			
1.1 Implement the Victorian Blackberry Strategy 2008-2013 and provide advice to government and stakeholders on blackberry management.	VBT	Ongoing	The Vision, Goals and Objectives of the VBS are achieved.
1.2 Seek funding for a Victorian Blackberry Taskforce Executive Officer. This position will coordinate implementation of the strategy, including monitoring progress, developing community engagement tools consistent with strategy directions and establishing a risk management framework in consultation with the taskforce.	VBT	2009	The Victorian Blackberry Taskforce is funded and the VBS is successfully implemented.
1.3 Build effective communication with stakeholders and the wider community to provide leadership in blackberry management to promote understanding of the Victorian Blackberry Strategy, responsibility for blackberry management, and develop and maintain blackberry management strategies.	VBT, DPI, DSE, CMAs, Landcare, local governments, community groups	Ongoing	Comprehensive communication networks are established and functioning effectively between all stakeholders.
1.4 Provide taskforce members and project staff with appropriate training to perform duties that help achieve the aims of the strategy, and ensure effort is made to retain valued, qualified and trained staff.	VBT, DPI	Ongoing	Project staff are suitably skilled to perform the duties required.
1.5 Investigate and where possible, establish better land management planning and weed management controls at the local, state and national level.	VBT, NBT, DPI, DSE, PV	Ongoing	Consistency in land management planning and weed management at a national level.
1.6 Ensure blackberry control is a critical outcome of land management projects funded and delivered in Victorian priority catchment areas.	VBT, DPI, DSE, CMAs, Landcare, local governments, community groups	Ongoing	Blackberry control is a fundamental component of all land management projects in Victoria.
OBJECTIVE: BLACKBERRY IS CONTAINED AND PREVENTED FROM ESTABLISHING IN NEW AREAS			
2.1 Identify blackberry pathways and assess the risk for the spread of blackberry across the landscape.	DPI, NBT	2009	Pathways for weed spread are identified and assessed for risk.
2.2 Establish protocols to reduce the movement and spread of blackberry by livestock, produce, soil and equipment.	DPI, DSE, local governments, industry groups, VFF.	2010	The likelihood of new blackberry infestations is reduced.
2.3 Implement an ongoing program of community education and awareness to alert the community to the risks of new blackberry infestations and ensure accurate identification.	VBT, Landcare, CMAs, DPI	Ongoing	Improved community awareness of blackberry and species identification.
2.4 Establish a notification process to ensure new infestations and species are rapidly reported and managed. The community will help detect new infestations.	VBT, DPI	Ongoing	Blackberry is prevented from establishing in new areas and in new satellite infestation areas.
2.5 Manage new and existing infestations with the aim of eradicating blackberry outside core infestation areas as well as preventing infestations in clean areas.	VBT, Landcare and community groups, DPI, public land managers	Ongoing	Blackberry is contained and prevented from establishing in new satellite infestation areas.

ACTION	PARTNERSHIPS	WHEN	OUTCOME
OBJECTIVE: THE DENSITY OF BLACKBERRY IS REDUCED LEADING TO AN INCREASE IN PRODUCTIVITY AND PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES.			
3.1 Identify and map areas with high productive, environmental or social (community support) values and develop appropriate management strategies to reduce blackberry impacts in these priority areas.	Community-led project groups in partnership with the VBT, CMAs and public land managers	2012	The density of blackberry is reduced in priority areas across the state.
3.2 Work to ensure that land managers will recognise the unique values of their land and invest appropriately to protect those values by implementing integrated weed control works that prevent seed set and reduce blackberry density.	All land managers	Ongoing	Improved capacity of land managers to sustainably manage blackberry on their property.
3.3 Advocate to public land managers to influence the allocation of appropriate resources for the control of blackberry, demonstrating best management practice to the wider community.	All public land managers	Ongoing	Control of blackberry on public land is advanced through improved resource allocation and closer blackberry control partnerships between DPI and DSE and the community.
3.4 Strategic enforcement of the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994 where community support exists for this approach to protect assets, support community group action and integrated project outcomes or local government incentives.	DPI, VBT	Ongoing	Improved compliance programs through integrated approaches with community and other key stakeholders.
3.5 Build partnerships with industry groups to develop innovative projects that address blackberry impacts on productivity. These projects may include developing information packages and programs that encourage and support cropping and grazing management practice change on properties affected by blackberry.	VBT	2010	Effective inter-agency partnerships established addressing the economic impacts of blackberry.
OBJECTIVE: INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS DISCOVERED TO ADDRESS COMPLEX WEED AND LAND MANAGEMENT ISSUES.			
4.1 The taskforce will continue working in partnership with research teams, the National Blackberry Taskforce and research centres to encourage the development of innovative, cost effective best management approaches to blackberry control.	VBT, DSE, DPI, NBT CSIRO	Ongoing	The result of research is integrated in blackberry management programs and effectively communicated to community.
4.2 Support and conduct research where opportunities exist for progress in biological control, modelling of blackberry populations, effective herbicide use, pasture and grazing management and landscape rehabilitation.	CSIRO, DPI, industry groups	Ongoing	Effective research provides for best management of blackberry across all land tenures.
4.3 Establish additional trial sites that demonstrate best management in a variety of localities, especially areas with complex issues relating to blackberry control, such as non-arable and steep marginal land, riparian and upper catchment areas.	VBT, community action groups, Landcare, CMAs	2012	Improved management of blackberry on complex sites is achieved through increased knowledge.
4.4 Undertake social research to identify barriers to adopting blackberry control and develop weed management and appropriate extension activities and resources to increase practice change.	DPI, VBT, community groups	2010	Greater awareness of the social barriers to participation are identified and inform future development of blackberry programs.
4.5 Identify mechanisms for distributing complex research results and information and develop appropriate communication resources to increase land manager understanding.	VBT, NBT, DPI, CSIRO	2011	Research results are integrated in blackberry management with private land managers.

ACTION	PARTNERSHIPS	WHEN	OUTCOME
OBJECTIVE: IMPROVED COMMUNITY CAPACITY TO ADDRESS THE IMPACTS OF BLACKBERRY.			
5.1 Develop a community engagement plan to improve community participation in managing blackberry to build greater ownership of the problem and increase commitment to implementing and achieving actions of this strategy.	VBT, DPI	Ongoing	Greater ownership of blackberry management on private land through community taking responsibility for blackberry control.
5.2 Target partnership programs to where the greatest public good can be achieved and meet the priorities set out in CMA Regional Catchment Strategies, weed and other action plans and this Victorian Blackberry Strategy.	VBT	Ongoing	Community partnership investment is aligned to appropriate regions across Victoria.
5.3 Engage community groups to encourage them to apply for funding from a variety of sources to address blackberry in their local area.	DPI Landscape Protection Pest Management staff	Ongoing	New opportunities for community groups to increase capacity for blackberry management across Victoria.
5.4 Establish local community action groups to support local land managers and farmers affected by blackberry, increase community involvement in blackberry management, develop local action plans and seek funding and resource support for their area. These groups will also ensure all land managers in a local area can access appropriate blackberry identification, control advice and information.	VBT, Landcare, VFF, DPI	Ongoing	Increased local community capacity to successfully identify blackberry species and develop blackberry management options.
5.5 Recognise and reward community achievements in blackberry management.	VBT, DPI	Ongoing	Communities increase their efforts in the control of blackberry.
OBJECTIVE: SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE CHANGE OCCURS THROUGHOUT THE AREA AFFECTED BY BLACKBERRY THROUGH REPLACEMENT WITH APPROPRIATE VEGETATION.			
6.1 Work with stakeholders to ensure the appropriate blackberry management practices encompass the management of blackberry to include revegetation practices that contribute to healthy catchments.	VBT, community action groups, CMAs, DSE	Ongoing	Revegetation practices will contribute to healthy catchments.
6.2 Work with stakeholders to ensure replacement strategies consider significant catchment and local level values and land manager resources.	VBT, DPI, DSE, CMAs	Ongoing	Adoption of land management practices which align with land capacity, local plans, land manager resources and local environmental values.
6.3 Investigate and pursue investment from a variety of sources, including industry, to support long-term planning, incentives and resources for replacement strategies.	VBT, community action groups, industry	Ongoing	Industry supports and contributes to blackberry management, including rehabilitation and re-vegetation.
6.4 Investigate and where possible establish incentives to help establish new markets such as forestry and carbon trading and ecosystem services.	VBT, CMAs, DSE	Ongoing	Market support will contribute to blackberry management including land rehabilitation.
6.5 Support current and new landscape change projects that adopt innovative solutions to blackberry management and enhance the environmental, social and productive capacity of land and water.	VBT, DSE, DPI, CMAs	Ongoing	Innovative management solutions lead to landscape change, enhancing environmental, social and production capacity.
OBJECTIVE: BLACKBERRY MANAGEMENT IS MONITORED AND REPORTED WITH AN EMPHASIS ON EVALUATION.			
7.1 Develop monitoring and evaluation systems that include state and local government agencies as well as the community.	VBT	Annually	Weed management programs are targeted and coordinated with stakeholders commitment.
7.2 Develop and implement a comprehensive evaluation plan, initially focussing on community impacts and engagement processes. A variety of quantitative and qualitative data will be collected and reported.	VBT	June 2012	Areas identified to improve the effectiveness of the VBT role in facilitating community engagement for blackberry management.
7.3 Publish annual reports highlighting progress of this strategy that outline achievements and challenges. Ensure that reporting is clear, rigorous and comprehensive.	VBT Executive Officer	Annually	Blackberry management is reported annually to key stakeholders and investors.
7.4 Maintain and upgrade the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce website providing unique branding and improved access to community and stakeholders for current information and progress of the strategy.	VBT Executive Officer	December 2008	Stakeholder awareness of blackberry problems is improved. Quality website design with increased web traffic.
7.5 Develop a list of actions which are the responsibility of the Victorian Blackberry Taskforce and prioritise to meet resources.	VBT Executive Officer	Annually	The VBT meets its responsibilities in completing an annual work plan.



PROGRAM LOGIC

OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS

IMPACTS - ULTIMATE DIFFERENCES

- The value of agricultural production, native vegetation and amenity is increased as well as productivity and protection of environmental and associated social values.
- Farm profitability and asset value are increased.
- Key priority assets are protected and enhanced.
- Landscape change is highly visible.
- The capacity of private landholders to manage blackberry is increased.
- Greater community ownership of blackberry management.
- Increased social/human capital through civic engagement in pest management.

OUTCOMES - LONGER-TERM EFFECTS

- Blackberry management is coordinated with partnership agreements and industry cooperation (eg. fodder/transport).
- Blackberry is contained and prevented from establishing in new areas.
- The density of blackberry is reduced on public and private land.
- Satellite infestations are eradicated.
- Improved community capacity to address blackberry impacts and its management/acceptance of the adoption of management of blackberry on private land.
- Post-blackberry projects to cater for new land-use are established.
- Landholders are using integrated control options.
- Land managers affected by blackberry voluntarily preventing the growth and spread of blackberry on their property.
- Less time spent controlling blackberry.

OUTPUTS

IMMEDIATE RESULTS

- Increased awareness, knowledge and practice change.
- Motivation for control.
- Works undertaken to treat and control blackberry.
- Integrated control options are developed.
- New blackberry projects are developed.
- Existing infestations are prioritised.
- Existing infestations treated.

ACTIVITIES

- Administration and resourcing activities.
- Landholder (public and private) activities.
- Strategic planning activities.
- Partnership building activities.
- Community engagement and deliberation activities.
- Advocacy activities.
- Lobbying activities.
- Extension activities.
- Compliance activities.
- Research activities.
- Education and awareness activities.
- Evaluation activities.
- Monitoring and reporting activities.

KEY EVALUATION QUESTIONS

TABLE 1: KEY EVALUATION QUESTIONS FOR THE VICTORIAN BLACKBERRY STRATEGY 2008-2013

1. To what extent has blackberry impact been reduced where management plans are developed?
2. What contributed to this reduction (what worked in particular situations and why – what didn't work in other situations and why)?
3. What will we do differently – what improvements will we make to the program?
4. Was the community supported to develop confidence and capacity to participate meaningfully in blackberry management?
5. What local level barriers to blackberry management were identified and addressed?

NOTES

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Websites:

www.dpi.vic.gov.au

www.vicblackberrytaskforce.com.au

www.weeds.crc.org.au

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