This guide contains plants frequently found within Australian Cotton farming systems.

Identification of weeds at this stage will improve management decisions.

The weeds are ordered by cotyledon shape and then by length.

Click the basic shapes below to view examples of plants with that leaf shape.

Images and information in this document compiled by Graham Charles, NSW DPI, unless otherwise acknowledged.
**Desert cowvine**
*Ipomoea diamantinensis*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 40
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Desert cowvine.

**Cowvine**
*Ipomoea lonchophylla*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 35
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Cowvine, Common cowvine, Peachvine.

**Elephant creeper**
*Argyreia nervosa*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 32.5
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Elephant creeper, Baby woodrose, Elephant climber, Elephant ear vine, Hawaiian baby woodrose, Mile-a-minute, Monkey rose, Silver morning glory, Snake vine, Wood rose, Woolly morning glory.

**Onion vine**
*Operculina aequisepala*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 32.5
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Onion vine.

**Littlebell**
*Ipomoea triloba*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 27.5
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Littlebell, Pink convolvulus, Potato vine.

**Bellvine**
*Ipomoea plebeia*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 27.5
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Cowvine (I. lonchophylla), Common morning glory (I. purpurea), and Desert cowvine (I. diamantinensis). These species can be distinguished by:

**Common morning glory**
*Ipomoea purpurea*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 24
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Common morning glory, Morning glory, Small morning glory, Tall morning glory.

**Polymeria take-all**
*Polymeria longifolia*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 17.5
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Polymeria take-all, Clumped bindweed, Erect bindweed, Peak Downs curse, Polymeria.

**Wild radish**
*Raphanus raphanistrum*
Brassicaceae (Cabbage family).
Cotyledon length: 13
Shape: Bi-lobed

**Canola**
*Brassica x napus var. napus*
Brassicaceae (Cabbage family).
Cotyledon length: 11
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Canola, Rape, Coleseed.

**Turnip weed**
*Rapistrum rugosum*
Brassicaceae (Cabbage family).
Cotyledon length: 11
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Turnip weed, Ball turnip, Giant mustard, Rapistrum weed, Short-fruited turnip, Short-fruited wild turnip, Wild turnip.

**Annual polymeria**
*Polymeria pusilla*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 10
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Annual polymeria, Polymeria.

**Australian bindweed**
*Convolvulus erubescens*
Convolvulaceae (Bindweed family).
Cotyledon length: 7
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Australian bindweed, Australian dodder, Blushing bindweed, Pink bindweed.

**Australian cranesbill**
*Geranium solanderi var. solanderi*
Geraniaceae (Geranium family).
Cotyledon length: 5
Shape: Bi-lobed
Names: Australian cransebill, Native geranium, Austral cranesbill, Cut-leaf cranesbill, Hairy geranium.
Yellow-flowered Devil’s claw

*Ipicella lutea*

Martyniaceae (Devil’s claw family)

*Cotyledon length:* 37

*Shape:* Deltoid

*Names:* Yellow-flowered devil’s claw, Devil’s grip, Double claw, Eagle’s claw, Elephant tusks, Goat’s head, Pumpkin vine, Ram’s horn, Unicorn plant.

Small-flowered mallow

*Malva parviflora*

Malvaceae (Hibiscus family).

*Cotyledon length:* 8.75

*Shape:* Deltoid

*Names:* Small-flowered mallow, Egyptian mallow, Little mallow, Marshmallow, Ring-leaf mallow, Small-flowered marshmallow, Whorl-flowered mallow, Whorl mallow.

Mint weed

*Salvia reflexa*

Lamiaceae (Mint family).

*Cotyledon length:* 6

*Shape:* Deltoid

*Names:* Mintweed, Lance-leaf sage, Narrow-leaf sage, Wild mint.

Corrugated sida

*Sida corrugata*

Malvaceae (Hibiscus family).

*Cotyledon length:* 3.5

*Shape:* Deltoid

*Names:* Corrugated sida, Dwarf sida, Native sida, Sage weed, Variable sida.
Mung bean
Vigna radiata
Fabaceae (Pea family).
Cotyledon length: 70
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Mung bean, Celera bean, Golden gram, Green gram, Moong bean.

Noogoora burr
Xanthium occidentale
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 37.5
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Noogoora burr, Beach cockleburr, Bur-burweed, Clotburr, Cockleburr, European cockle-burr, Large cockleburr, Italian cockleburr, Rough cockleburr, Sheep's burr.

Pigeon pea
Cajanus cajan
Fabaceae (Pea family).
Cotyledon length: 35
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Pigeon pea, Congo pea, No-eye pea, Red gram, Tree pea.

Vigna take-all
Vigna lanceolata var. latifolia
Fabaceae (Pea family).
Cotyledon length: 22.5
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Vigna take-all, Maloga bean, Native bean, Parsnip bean.

Italian cockleburr
Xanthium italicum
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 19.5
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Italian cockleburr, Hunter burr.

Californian burr
Xanthium orientale
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 19.5
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Californian burr, Beach cockleburr, Bur-burweed, Clotburr, Cockleburr, European cockle-burr, Italian cockleburr, Large cockleburr, Rough cockleburr, Sheep's burr.

Velvety tree pear
Opuntia tomentosa
Cactaceae (Cactus family).
Cotyledon length: 12
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Velvet tree pear.

Climbing saltbush
Einadia nutans subsp. oxycarpa
Chenopodiaceae (Saltbush family).
Cotyledon length: 7.5
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Climbing saltbush, Berry saltbush, Nodding saltbush.

Annual saltbush
Atriplex muelleri
Chenopodiaceae (Saltbush family).
Cotyledon length: 7
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Annual saltbush, Mueller's saltbush, Green saltbush, Lagoon saltbush, Queensland saltbush.

Fathen
Chenopodium album
Chenopodiaceae (Saltbush family).
Cotyledon length: 7
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Fathen, Blueweed, Fat hen, Giant fathen, Goosefoot, Lamb's quarters, White goosefoot.

Willow primrose
Ludwigia octovalvis
Onagraceae (Evening primrose family).
Cotyledon length: 5
Shape: Elliptic
Names: Willow primrose.
Scurvy grass
Commelina ensifolia
Commelinaceae (Dayflower family).
Cotyledon length: 32.5
Shape: Linear
Names: Scurvy grass, Scurvy weed, Wandering Jew.

Soft roly-poly
Salsola australis
Chenopodiaceae (Saltbush family).
Cotyledon length: 32.5
Shape: Linear

Mexican poppy ochroleuca
Argemone ochroleuca ssp. ochroleuca
Papaveraceae (Poppy family).
Cotyledon length: 26
Shape: Linear
Names: Mexican poppy, Biniguy thistle, Devil’s fig, Golden thistle-of-Peru, Mexican thistle, Prickly poppy, White thistle, Yellow poppy.

Downy thornapple
Datura inoxia
Solanaceae (Tomato family).
Cotyledon length: 24
Shape: Linear
Names: Downy thornapple, Hoary thornapple, Recurved thornapple.

Fierce thornapple
Datura ferox
Solanaceae (Tomato family).
Cotyledon length: 24
Shape: Linear
Names: Fierce thornapple, Castor oil, False castor oil, Long-spined thornapple, Long-spurred thornapple, Thornapple.

Milkweed
Euphorbia heterophylla
Euphorbiaceae (Spurge family).
Cotyledon length: 22
Shape: Linear
Names: Milkweed, Desert spurge, Mexican fireweed, Wild poinsettia, Yellow spurge.

Fennel
Foeniculum vulgare
Apiaceae (Carrot family).
Cotyledon length: 16.5
Shape: Linear
Names: Fennel, Anise, Aniseed, Aniseed weed, Dill, Sweet anise.

Gomphrena weed
Gomphrena celosioides
Amaranthaceae (Amaranth family).
Cotyledon length: 15
Shape: Linear
Woolly pod vetch
*Vicia villosa subsp. eriocarpa*
Fabaceae (Pea family).
*Cotyledon length:* 9  *Shape:* Pinnate
*Names:* Woollypod vetch.

Chickpea
*Cicer arietinum*
Fabaceae (Pea family).
*Cotyledon length:* 4  *Shape:* Pinnate
*Names:* Chickpea, Garbanzo bean, Gram.
Siratro
Macroptilium atropurpureum
Fabeaceae (Pea family).
Cotyledon length: 11
Shape: Round
Names: Siratro, Purple bean.

Pepper-leaf senna
Senna barclayana
Caesalpiniaceae (Cassia family).
Cotyledon length: 9
Shape: Round
Names: Pepper-leaf senna, Antbush, Smooth senna, Yellow peabush.

Velvetleaf
Abutilon theophrasti
Malvaceae (Hibiscus family).
Cotyledon length: 7.5
Shape: Round

Tridax
Tridax procumbens
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 6
Shape: Round
Names: Tridax, Tridax daisy.

Native sensitive plant
Neptunia gracilis
Mimosaceae (Wattle family).
Cotyledon length: 6
Shape: Round
Names: Native sensitive plant, Selenium weed, Sensitive plant.

Indian hedge mustard
Sisybrium orientale
Brassicaceae (Cabbage family).
Cotyledon length: 5.5
Shape: Round
Names: Indian hedge mustard, Eastern rocket, Mustard, Oriental rocket, Wild mustard.

Prickly lettuce
Lactuca serriola
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 5
Shape: Round
Names: Prickly lettuce, Compass plant, Milk thistle, Whip thistle.

Stagger weed
Stachys arvensis
Lamiaceae (Mint family).
Cotyledon length: 4.5
Shape: Round
Names: Stagger weed, Corn woundwort, Field stachys, Field wound root, Field woundwort, Hedge nettle, Mintweed, Woundwort.

Common sowthistle
Sonchus oleraceus
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 4.5
Shape: Round
Names: Common sowthistle, Annual sowthistle, Common milk thistle, Milk thistle, Milkweed, Sowthistle, Thalaak.

Ox-tongue
Helminthotheca echioides
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 4.5
Shape: Round
Names: Ox-tongue, Bristley ox-tongue.

Tarvine
Boerhavia dominii
Nyctaginaceae (Tarvine family).
Cotyledon length: 3.5
Shape: Round
Names: Tarvine, Common spiderling, Hogweed, Giotcho, Murra, Tah-vine.

Billygoat weed
Ageratum conyzoides
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 3
Shape: Round
Names: Billygoat weed, Blue bonnet, Bluetop, Goatweed.

Caustic weed
Chamaesyce drummondii
Euphorbiaceae (Spurge family).
Cotyledon length: 2.5
Shape: Round
Names: Caustic weed, Caustic creeper, Creeping spurge, Doily weed, Flat spurge, Mat spurge, Milkweed, Spurgewort. Formerly named Eu phorbia drummondii.
Saffron thistle
Carthamus lanatus
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 14.5
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
Saffron thistle, Distaff thistle, False star thistle, Woolly safflower, Woolly star thistle, Woolly thistle, Yellow star thistle.

Spotted golden thistle
Scolymus maculatus
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 12.5
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
Spotted golden thistle, Spotted thistle.

Chicory
Cichorium intybus
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 10
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
Chicory, Belgian endive, Succory, Wild succory, Witloof.

White flatweed
Hypochaeris microcephala var. albiflora
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 9.5
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
White flatweed, Dandelion, Flatweed, White-flowered flatweed.

Capeweed
Arctotheca calendula
Asteraceae (Daisy family).
Cotyledon length: 8
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
Capeweed, African marigold, Cape dandelion.

Wireweed
Polygonum aviculare
Polygonaceae (Dock family).
Cotyledon length: 8.5
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
Wireweed, Hogweed, Ironweed, Knotweed, Prostrate knotweed.

Twiggy mullein
Verbascum virgatum
Scrophulariaceae (Figwort family).
Cotyledon length: 4.5
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
Twiggy mullein, Green mullein, Slender mullein.

African turnip weed
Sisybrium thellingii
Brassicaceae (Cabbage family).
Cotyledon length: 4.5
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
African turnip weed.

Lippia
Phylla canescens
Verbenaceae (Verbena family).
Cotyledon length: 2.5
Shape: Spatulate
Names:
Lippia, Carpetweed, Fog fruit.
Common Names

African turnip weed
Annual polymeria
Australiana
Australian cranesbill
Bathurst burr
Blackpoly
Billgoat weed
Black nightshade
Black pigweed
Budda pea
Buttercrick
Butterfly pea
Climbing saltbush
Common heliotrope
Common joyweed
Common morning glory
Common sowthistle
Corrugated alka
Cowvine
Cranesbill weed
Dean's spurge
Deadnettle
Downy thornapple
Dwarf marigold
Elephant creeper
Emu foot (broad leaf type)
Emu foot (narrow leaf type)
Fathen
Fennel
Fierce thornapple
Flaxleaf fleabane
Gomphrena weed
Green amaranth
Green rattlepod
Hairy pigweed
Hare's foot clover
Hogweed
Indian hedge mustard
Indian milkweed
Khai weed
Lettuce
Lispia
Lucerne
Maltese cockspur
Mexican poppy ochroleuca
Milkweed
Mimosa bush
Mung bean
Narrow leaved letimia
Native rosella
Native sensitive plant
Noogoora burr
Onion vine
Ox-tongue
Pale knotweed
Patterson's curse
Patterson's weed
Pigweed
Planes alpestris
Prickly lettuce
Purple-flowered devil's claw
Purplato
Redflowered联动
Ryncho
Safflower
Sawtooth saltbush
Scarlet pimpernel
Scotch thistle
Sesbania
Shepherd's purse
Sistrato
Small-flowered mallow
Soft rot-poly
Spiney amex
Spotted golden thistle
Stinkzweed
St. Barnaby's thistle
Stinkzweed
Sunflower
Sunflower
Tridax
Triggo
Twigg emex
Violet amazone
Violet amazone
White clover
Wild blacknightshade
Wild black nightshade
Wild cotton
Wild gooseberry
Wild melon
Wild radish
Wild sunflower
Wireweed
Yellow-flower Devil's claw
Yellow vine
Exotic

Exotic NSW C3 Declaration
Exotic NSW C4 Declaration
Exotic NSW C5 Declaration
Exotic WONS, Qld C2, Declaration
Native WONS, NSW C1, Qld C2 Declaration
Resistance confirmed in this species

Explaination of NSW weed control classes

The characteristics of each class are as follows:

Class 1
noxious weeds are plants that pose a potentially serious threat to primary production or the environment and are not present in the State or are present only to a limited extent.

Class 2
noxious weeds are plants that pose a serious threat to primary production or the environment of a region to which the order applies and are not present in the region or are present only to a limited extent.

Class 3
noxious weeds are plants that pose a threat to primary production, the environment or human health, are widely distributed in an area to which the order applies and are likely to spread in the area or to another area.

Class 4
noxious weeds are plants that are likely, by their sale or the sale of their seeds or movement within the State or outside the State.

For more information on NSW weed declarations visit:

Explaination of Queensland weed control classes

A Class 1 pest is one that has the potential to become a very serious pest in Queensland in the future. We need to prevent the introduction, possession and sale of these species so that they can’t escape to become pests. All landholders are required by law to keep their land free of Class 1 pests. It is a serious offence to introduce, keep, release or sell Class 1 pests without a permit.

A Class 2 pest is one that has already spread over substantial areas of Queensland, but its impact is so serious that we need to try and control it and avoid further spread onto properties that are still free of the pest. By law, all landholders must try to keep their land free of Class 2 pests and it is an offence to possess, sell or release these pests without a permit.

A Class 3 pest is one that is commonly established in parts of Queensland. Landholders are not required to control a Class 3 declared pest plant on their land unless a pest control notice is issued by a local government because the pest is causing or has potential to cause a negative impact on an adjacent environmentally significant area. It is an offence to supply a Class 3 pest. A permit for specific purposes may be issued by Biosecurity Queensland. Species not declared under the Land Protection (Pests and Stock Route Management) Act 2002 may still be declared at a local government level under local laws.

For more information on Queensland weed declarations visit: