

# Media Release

30 November 2021

## **Council's summer Biosecurity Surveillance Program is underway**

Gladstone Regional Council is committed to keeping our region safe and beautiful by undertaking the summer Biosecurity Surveillance Program.

The summer Biosecurity Surveillance Program has commenced and is due to run until 30 April 2022.

Gladstone Region Councillor and Capricorn Pest Management Group committee member Chris Cameron said the program aims to confirm the absence or detect the presence of biosecurity matter and assessing the extent of invasive plant species.

"Species include the African tulip tree, bellyache bush, giant rat's tail grass, groundsel bush, harrisia cactus, mesquite, parkinsonia, parthenium, prickly acacia and rubber vine," Councillor Cameron said.

"The program also aims to monitor landholder compliance with requirements regarding prohibited matter or restricted matter.

"Council officers will conduct property inspections to monitor compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and Council's Biosecurity Plan."

Cr Cameron said landholders and residents need to ensure their actions or activities do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.

"Gladstone Region landholders are responsible for managing pest species and must take all reasonable and practical steps to prevent or minimise each biosecurity risk," he said.

"It is integral that Council monitors these pests and measures the effectiveness of control methods implemented by landholders."

The summer Biosecurity Surveillance Program is available to view online at [www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/biosecurity](http://www.gladstone.qld.gov.au/biosecurity) and copies are held at all Council offices and Rural Transaction Centres.

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