



### Status

Cootamundra wattle is not listed as a noxious weed in the NSW section of the Molonglo Catchment however it is an important species for control due to its invasive nature. In the ACT, Cootamundra wattle is a class 4 Pest Plant whose supply is prohibited. It is recommended that this plant is not purchased or grown anywhere in the Molonglo Catchment.

### Look-alikes

Native plants can often be confused with weed species. The following information aims to assist you with accurate identification to prevent the loss of our declining natives. If you are unsure what species you are dealing with, take advantage of the identification services on offer from your local weeds officer (either at your local council or the ACT's Parks, Conservation and Lands) before carrying out any controls.

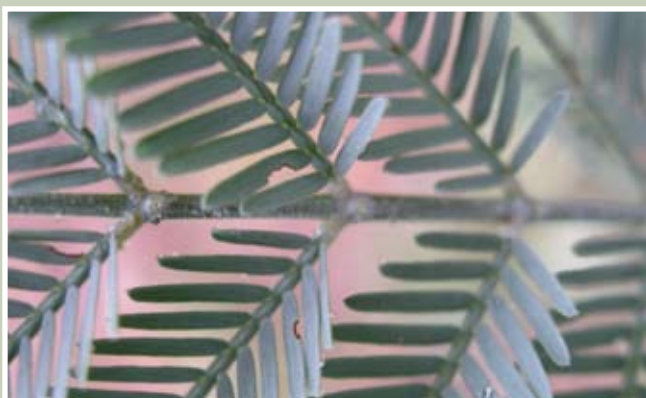
*Acacia baileyana* 'Purpurea', a purple leaved cultivar of the Cootamundra wattle, is available from some nurseries but is also weedy and should be avoided.



Lynton Bond

Weed: *Acacia baileyana* 'Purpurea'

**Silver wattle** (*Acacia dealbata*) is quite similar and should not be removed. A defining feature is that it doesn't have the backwards pointing pair of lower leaf pinnae. Silver wattle also colonises heavily.



Lynton Bond

Native: silver wattle



Lynton Bond

Native: silver wattle.

Note the similarity between this wattle and the Cootamundra wattle on the front page

### Control methods

Pull young seedlings by hand. Cut larger plants off at ground level. Younger plants may occasionally resprout if not cut low enough, though they rarely reshoot, thus eliminating the need to apply chemicals to the cut stump. Take care not to disturb the existing ground litter to prevent germination of soil stored seed. Seed can remain viable for long periods of time so regular monitoring will be required to remove seedlings as they germinate. For advice on what time of year to implement the following management options, see the Molonglo Catchment Weed Control Calendar.

Avoid growing this plant. Ask your local 'bush friendly' nursery for alternative species.