

Prosopis juliflora 

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Fabales	Fabaceae

Common name ironwood (English), algarrobo (Spanish), Mesquitebaum (German), mesquite (English), bayarone (French), algarroba (Spanish), cují negro (Spanish)

Synonym

Similar species

Summary



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Management Info

Preventative measures: [A Risk assessment of *Prosopis* spp.](#) for Australia was prepared by Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk (PIER) using the Australian risk assessment system (Pheloung, 1995). The result is a score of 20 and a recommendation of: reject the plant for import (Australia) or species likely to be a pest (Pacific). The [Best Practice Manual Mesquite Control and management options for mesquite \(*Prosopis* spp.\) in Australia](#) aims to provide the most current information on mesquite in Australia. The control and management options presented in this manual are the combined results of years of trials carried out by many dedicated researchers, landholders, herbicide companies, government officers, landcare groups and others. As mesquite species respond differently to control methods, the most effective method or combination of methods will vary depending on the size, density and species of mesquite present. The manual includes a 'mesquite control tool box'. Included also are a number of case studies to demonstrate best practice.

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Updates with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Publication date: 2010-07-13

ALIEN RANGE

[1] BERMUDA

[1] FRENCH POLYNESIA

[1] REUNION

[1] VIRGIN ISLANDS, BRITISH

[1] CAYMAN ISLANDS

[1] INDIA

[2] SAINT HELENA

Red List assessed species 3: CR = 1; EN = 1; LC = 1;

[Chelonia mydas](#) EN

[Paraechinus micropus](#) LC

[Euphorbia origanoides](#) CR

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) 2026. Species profile *Prosopis juliflora*. Available from: <https://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=917> [Accessed 02 April 2026]

12 references found for *Prosopis juliflora*

Management information

[Australian Weeds Committee, 2008. Weeds of National Significance. Mesquite](#)

Summary: This site provides information on the strategy for the management of Mesquite (*Prosopis*). Documents available for download include the strategy, Mesquite control manual, brochures, posters and current and potential distribution maps.

Available from: <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/mesquite/> [Accessed 23 October 2008]

[Belton, T., 2008. Management Strategy for Mexican Thorn \(*Prosopis juliflora*\) on Ascension Island. An assessment of this species, and recommendations for management. Prepared by Tom Belton, Weed Ecologist, SAIS Project, RSPB. This report was produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents are the sole responsibility of RSPB and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union](#)

Belton, T., 2008. St Helena Weed Species Assessment. Unpublished report to South Atlantic Invasive Species Project.

[Cooperative Research Centre \(CRC\) for Australian Weed Management, 2003. Weed Management Guide: Mesquite *Prosopis* species. CRC for Australian Weed Management the Commonwealth Department of the Environment and Heritage and the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://www.weeds.gov.au/publications/guidelines/wons/pubs/prosopis.pdf> [Accessed 13 November 2009]

[IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group \(ISSG\), 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.](#)

Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

[Mwangi, Esther & Brent Swallow., 2008. *Prosopis juliflora* Invasion and Rural Livelihoods in the Lake Baringo Area of Kenya. Conservation & Society Year : 2008, Volume : 6 Issue : 2 Page : 130-140](#)

Summary: Global concern about deforestation caused by fuelwood shortages prompted the introduction of *Prosopis juliflora* to many tropical areas in the 1970s and 1980s. *P. juliflora* is a hardy nitrogen-fixing tree that is now recognised as one of the world's most invasive alien species. The introduction and subsequent invasion of *P. juliflora* in the Lake Baringo area of Kenya has attracted national media attention and contradictory responses from responsible agencies. This paper presents an assessment of the livelihood effects, costs of control and local perceptions on *P. juliflora* of rural residents in the Lake Baringo area. Unlike some other parts of the world where it had been introduced, few of the potential benefits of *P. juliflora* have been captured and very few people realise the net benefits in places where the invasion is most advanced. Strong local support for eradication and replacement appears to be well justified. Sustainable utilisation will require considerable investment and institutional innovation

[Osmond, Rachele, 2003. Best Practice Manual Mesquite Control and management options for mesquite \(*Prosopis* spp.\) in Australia. This manual is sponsored by the National Weeds Program \(Natural Heritage Trust\) and the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/mesquite/> [Accessed July 15 2010]

[Varnham, K. 2006. Non-native species in UK Overseas Territories: a review. JNCC Report 372. Peterborough: United Kingdom.](#)

Summary: This database compiles information on alien species from British Overseas Territories.

Available from: <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3660> [Accessed 10 November 2009]

General information

[Conservatoire Botanique National De Mascarin \(BOULLET V. coord.\) 2007. - *Prosopis juliflora* Index de la flore vasculaire de la Réunion \(Trachophytes\) : statuts, menaces et protections. - Version 2007.1](#)

Summary: Base de données sur la flore de la Réunion. De nombreuses informations très utiles.

Available from: <http://flore.cbnm.org/index2.php?page=taxon&num=63a8f9e307f0bf4473c24dd4db17cebd> [Accessed 9 April 2008]

[Florence J., Chevillotte H., Ollier C. & Meyer J.-Y. 2007. *Prosopis juliflora* Base de données botaniques Nadeaud de l'Herbier de la Polynésie française \(PAP\).](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.herbier-tahiti.pf/Selection_Taxonomie.php?id_tax=8752 [Accessed 9 April 2008]

[ITIS \(Integrated Taxonomic Information System\). 2002. Online Database *Prosopis juliflora*](#)

Summary: An online database that provides taxonomic information, common names, synonyms and geographical jurisdiction of a species. In addition links are provided to retrieve biological records and collection information from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Data Portal and bioscience articles from BioOne journals.

Available from: http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=565434 [Accessed 23 October 2003]

[Pasicznik, N.M., Felker, P., Harris, P.J.C., Harsh, L.N., Cruz, G., Tewari, J.C., Cadoret, K. and Maldonado, L.J. \(2001\) The *Prosopis juliflora* - *Prosopis pallida* Complex: A Monograph. HDRA, Coventry, UK. pp.172.](#)