

**SPANISH HEATH
INTRODUCED WEED**



**Ross Creek
Landcare Group**

**For further information:
Ross Creek Landcare Group
Phone Rosemary: 53428877**

Some helpful websites:

[http://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/webdocuments/environment-engineering/parks-environment/environment-parks-environment/spanish heath web.pdf](http://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/webdocuments/environment-engineering/parks-environment/environment-parks-environment/spanish%20heath%20web.pdf)

http://vro.agriculture.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/lwm_pest_plants_spanish_heath

[http://vro.agriculture.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/spanish heath docs/\\$FILE/impact spanish heath berry flower.p df](http://vro.agriculture.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/spanish_heath_docs/$FILE/impact_spanish_heath_berry_flower.pdf)

http://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/erica_lusitanica.htm

www.anbg.gov.au/education/floral-emblem-ed

**Ross Creek Landcare
Information
Pamphlet.**

Spanish Heath is an introduced weed common in the Ross Creek area. It is often confused with the native heath, also found in the area. This information pamphlet has been produced to help residents distinguish the difference between the two plants and to provide suggestions on how to control this weed.



**SPANISH HEATH
INTRODUCED WEED**

Introduced Weed



Spanish Heath invades native vegetation, forming dense infestations and creating a fire hazard due to its extreme flammability.

Description:

Vertical woody shrub to a height of 2 m. Short, narrow crowded leaves.

Clustered, small white-pink bell-shaped flowers on the ends of side branches in winter.

Capsules 3mm in size, containing 80–100 dust-like seeds.

How it is spread:

Easily spread by water, wind, soil, and vegetative dispersal.

Seeds remain viable for up to four years.

Plants can live up to 40 years.

Removal:

Dig out in winter before seeding in spring with minimal soil disturbance to limit spread.

Treat with an appropriate herbicide (eg glyphosate). Treat Spanish Heath as you would treat gorse using a stronger than normal mix eg. 70:1.

Disposal:

Non flowering plants can be mulched or burnt in a very hot fire.

Native Plant

Native Heath (Epacris impressa)



Description:

Small shrub less than 1m in height (can reach 2 -3m).

Small leaves with sharp points.

Flowers are narrow and tubular and clusters among the ends of the branches. Flowers on different plants can be red as shown, through to pink and white.

The pink form of Common Heath, *Epacris impressa*, was proclaimed the floral emblem of Victoria on 11 November 1958.

