

# Catclaw mimosa

*Mimosa pigra*



Inflorescences, containing up to 100 flowers, are spherical, pink and last 1 day (Colin Wilson)



Pods hairy, up to 15 cm long, containing between 8 and 24 seeds (Colin Wilson)



*M. pigra* leaves before physical stimulation (Colin Wilson)

Prevention	Monitoring	Direct Control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As seeds can travel on animals and machinery, do not allow animals into an affected area, limit machinery use in the area and keep machinery clean to prevent spread</li> <li>Do not allow livestock to graze in infested pasture – seeds can pass through digestive tract unharmed</li> <li>Clean shoes, clothing and hair after being in a potentially infested area. The bristly one-seeded pod segments are sticky</li> <li>Ensure uncontaminated water is used when flooding rice paddys as pod segments float and can be transported by water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly check sites such as machinery tracks, grazing places, previously flooded areas fallen dry for seeds and any seedling establishment</li> <li>Check for any seed germination at the start and end of the wet season</li> <li>Spreading, multi-stemmed, thorny shrub usually up to 2 m tall,</li> <li>The inflorescences, containing up to 100 flowers, flowers are pale pink and arranged in fluffy, globular clusters (10-20 mm across)</li> <li>The fruit is an elongated and flattened pod covered in bristly hairs and up to 15 cm long and clustered at the stem tips</li> <li>The plant is evergreen and bears bipinnate (twice-compound), sensitive leaves, up to 18 cm in length. When touched they fold together and also during the night</li> <li>Recurved spines (to 7 mm long) are located on the undersides of the petioles, petioulous and stems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uproot plants by hand-pulling or using machinery, and destroy roots</li> <li>Collect seeds and burn before weeding</li> <li>Cut plants off at 10 cm below ground level to kill the weed. Use long handled cutters, axe or machete:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blade ploughing is effective since it cuts below ground level. Slashing and chaining alone is not (requires herbicide application afterwards)</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Burning is not recommended</b> – does not prevent resprouting and kills only surface seeds. It may stimulate germination. Also reduces the numbers of the stem-mining moth <i>Carmenta mimosa</i></li> <li>Check which biocontrols are available in your country. Examples of biological controls include:                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beetle species such as <i>Acanthoscelides puniceus</i> or <i>A. quadridentatus</i></li> <li>The green twig-mining moth <i>Neurostrotta gunniella</i> attacks mature plants and seedlings greater than 15 cm (should not be used in Thailand or Vietnam). You can use this after weed removal to reduce herbicide use</li> </ul> </li> <li>Fragment infestations to increase numbers of control agents such as <i>N. gunniella</i> since it increases weed stand edges</li> </ul>

Note: Pesticides may be available to control this pest. Please check with the Ministry of Agriculture in your country to find out which pesticides are registered in your country and the local restrictions for their use.