

Media Release

GISBORNE SOUTH WINNING THE BATTLE WITH SERRATED TUSSOCK

27th November 2016

The Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party (VSTWP) is midway through stage 2 of its Gisborne serrated tussock extension project. The project is being undertaken in an area to the south west of the Gisborne Township and complements recent extension projects in the Riddells Creek and Clarkefield areas.

Since its commencement in May 2016, assistance has been offered to 226 landholders in the project area. Landowners were able to have their property assessed and mapped for serrated tussock, and provided with personalised treatment advice. Serrated tussock information sessions were also available along with guidance in identification,. All of these services are free and funded by the community led VSTWP.

To date, 136 landowners have taken up the offer of one-on-one advice, improving their ability to identify and manage serrated tussock for the long-term. The outcomes from the project so far include the treatment of approximately 55 hectares of serrated tussock infested land across the project area.

VSTWP Extension Officer Ivan Carter said "I have found mostly scattered serrated tussock infestations in the areas of Gisborne and Gisborne South. If left untreated these infestations have the potential to spread and will rapidly decrease biodiversity in native grasslands and seriously reduce the agricultural capacity of properties". Mr Carter advised "landowners and managers are best advised to treat this noxious weed each season prior to seeding, as each plant can produce thousands of seeds each year."

For more information on serrated tussock please visit www.serratedtussock.com



Victorian
Serrated Tussock
Working Party

(Photo: Serrated tussock in seed, note the small purple seeds which spread in the summer winds).

