

# Pond apple

## *Annona glabra*

**Pond apple is declared a Class A (to be eradicated) and Class C (not to be introduced) weed in the Northern Territory and is a Weed of National Significance in Australia.**

Pond apple is a declared weed in accordance with the *Weeds Management Act*.

Pond apple can spread very quickly and is hard to control once established. Preventing further establishment of pond apple in the Northern Territory is the most cost effective and efficient management strategy. Early identification and treatment relies on receiving reports from members of the public.

Residents are asked to check their properties for this weed and report suspected plants immediately to the Weed Management Branch.

Do not attempt to control or dispose of pond apple yourself. The Weed Management Branch will destroy and remove any pond apple trees. This allows the exact location to be recorded and any necessary survey and control in the vicinity to be undertaken.

### HABIT



A small tree growing about 3 - 6m tall, but occasionally reaching 15m in height.

### TRUNK



Grey bark, usually with a single trunk but multiple-stemmed plants common when several seedlings germinate together. Stems often fuse together giving the appearance of a single trunk.

### LEAVES



Alternate leaves, 7 - 12cm long with a prominent midrib. Leaves have a light to dark green upper surface (depending on age) and are paler on the underside.

### FLOWERS



Creamy white to light yellow flowers, 20 - 30mm in diameter, not easily seen on the tree. Flowers have three leathery outer petals and three smaller inner petals, with a red inner base.

### FRUIT & SEED



The edible fruit looks like a smooth-skinned custard apple, similar in shape to a mango and 5 - 15cm wide. Fruit contains about 140 pumpkin-like seeds.

Weed Management Officers from the Weed Management Branch can provide advice on all aspects of weed management including control techniques, biological control, legislative responsibilities, policy advice, monitoring and reporting and regional planning. For further information on weed management planning, integrated control, herbicide application techniques and monitoring please refer to the [NT Weed Management Handbook](#).