

Dutchman's Pipe Project

The Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland and the Richmond Birdwing Conservation Network are currently working on a project, which involves mapping infestations of the invasive Dutchman's pipe vine (*Aristolochia elegans*) across South East Queensland. The vine is toxic and lethal to the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly in its larval phase and the maps created will assist us in creating a targeted eradication plan to remove Dutchman's Pipe from important wildlife corridors.

We are currently in the early phases of gathering information on locations and sightings of Dutchman's Pipe across South east Queensland, and would greatly appreciate any data or resources that may be available from organisations or individual sightings of the vine, in the form of street addresses, GPS coordinates or GIS files (.shp). I have attached a simple form to record any information you have about known locations. If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the project with me, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the contact details in my signature below.

Kind regards,

Meegan Hardaker

Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland

Birdwing@wildlife.org.au

07-3221 0194



Looking for the Butterfly killer

Aristolochia elegans [Dutchman's pipe vine] is a Class 3 pest plant in Queensland. This means it can't be sold in nurseries....which is a good thing. This plant tricks the vulnerable Richmond birdwing butterfly into laying its eggs on this plant, instead of its native food plant, *Pararistolochia praevenosa*. When the eggs hatch, the larvae feed on the introduced Dutchman's pipe vine, and then die. Dutchman's pipe comes from South America. Much work has been done to re-establish the Richmond birdwing to its original habitat which was from Maryborough down to the Richmond River in NSW.

Dutchman's pipe is fairly easy to recognise, with large [15 -50mm long] leaves, roughly heart shaped, upper side of leaf is bright green whilst the underside is paler. The most distinctive feature is the smell of the crushed leaf...it stinks! The flowers are striking and resemble a large pipe, hence the name.



Photos: Phillip Moran

Dutchman's Pipe (*Aristolochia elegans*) Reporting Form

Name/Organisation:

Contact number:

Date:

Email:

Dutchman's Pipe Locations:

Location	Co-ordinates	Precision	Co-ordinate System, Projection or Datum	Street Address	Notes
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					



birdwing@wildlife.org.au

Wildlife Preservation Society of Queensland
95 William Street Brisbane QLD 4000
Publishers of *Wildlife Australia Magazine* since 1962.

Phone: +61 7 3221 0194 Fax: +61 7 3221 0701 www.wildlife.org.au