

ENVIRONMENTAL WEED FACT SHEET

NAME: **Onion Weed**

BOTANICAL NAME: *Nothoscordum gracile*

ORIGIN: Introduced as a garden plant from South America.

DESCRIPTION: Hardy noxious bulbous perennial with grass-like leaves. Closely related to the onions (*Allium* species), but plant parts lack an onion or garlic odour when crushed.

BIOLOGY: Reproduces by seed and underground bulblets. Seed is highly viable and germinates readily on poor soils. Bulblets separate from the parent bulb by contractile roots. Underground bulblets easily dislodge from the parent bulb when plants are manually removed.

HABITAT: Disturbed sites, landscaped areas, gardens. Transported in soils. Is a common winter-growing.

See other side for control methods.



CONTROL METHODS:

Early control is essential to avoid major problems.

Mechanical

Onion weed is an extremely difficult plant to remove. Digging up the plant is NOT recommended as this dispersed the secondary bulbs.

Can take many years to control.

Chemical

When the plant is flowering, hold the flowers upright and 100% Glyphosate 360g/L, dripped into the flowers from a Squeeze bottle. This seems to give a direct path for the poison to travel down to kill the troublesome bulbs. This seems to have good results.

Always read the label before using any pesticides. All chemicals MUST be used strictly in accordance with the registered label for the product.

Biological

No bio-controls available.

For additional information, contact the Vegetation Control Officer at Lake Macquarie City Council – (02) 49210360

