Boneseed (Chrysanthemoides monilifera subsp. monilifera)

Boneseed is a bushy shrub or small tree up to 3m tall. It prefers well drained, dry soils and can tolerate very poor soils and sand, often occurring in coastal areas.

Hardy and persistent, this much-branched shrub flowers from September through to February and sometimes as late as May. The yellow, daisy-like flowers are followed by small fruit that have a thin, fleshy covering over a very hard stone, hence the name boneseed.

Each plant produces thousands of seeds. Possums and birds help disperse the seeds, which germinate readily in disturbed soil.

All but the largest plants should be hand pulled before they fruit. Larger plants should be sprayed with herbicide. Alternatively the bushes should be cut off close to ground level and the cut stump treated with herbicide.

Contact your Regional Council for advice on control methods.