

**Inquiry into the impacts of invasive plants (weeds)  
and their control in Queensland**

**Submission No. 014**

**J.T. POCOCK**

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**RESEARCH DIRECTOR**

**AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

**PARLIAMENT HOUSE QLD 4000**

**January 4<sup>th</sup> 2017**

**Dear Sir,**

**On reading the draft of submissions to Parliamentary Committee on prickly acacia, giant rat's tail grass & fireweed, there should be another pest added to the list which is AMBROSIA.**

**In the Scenic Rim Maroon area fireweed and ambrosia is a very big problem, as ambrosia is spread by Council slashing the roads in infested areas, then mowing in areas where it was not a problem before, now it is everywhere.**

**Fireweed in our country at Maroon is really bad and there is only two ways to control it and one way is by biological method other way is by helicopter.**

**Mechanical spraying can only reach fifty percent of country and it leaves the other half to continue to grow from seed beds.**

**Helicopter spraying will eliminate this problem as it will treat 100 percent of the area. Problem is chemical is too dear so there should be a subsidy to reduce the price of chemical, so everyone will spray fireweed.**

**Fireweed is a State Government problem as they let it come from New South Wales .If fireweed is not bought under control the cattle industry will be virtually wiped out, as it reduces cattle numbers.**

**Your description of where the fireweed is, is not correct as I have travelled extensively over Australia and it is in the far north area at Weipa**

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**& Cape York and through the Kimberly area and in the National Parks in  
Tasmania.**

**I am third generation cattle producer.**

**Yours sincerely**

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of John T Pocock.

**John T Pocock.**