

1. Young plant

2. Star shaped flower

3. Pale green leaves

4. Mass of Parthenium

5. Branches of flowers

Parthenium is a toxic weed which is invading Pakistan. It can be harmful to people, crops, livestock and the environment so it is important to control it and 'root it out'.

PREVENT

Don't bring Parthenium onto your land or spread it.

- Plant certified seed not contaminated with Parthenium
- Wash machinery, vehicles and tools before and after using in the field
- Don't pack fruit and vegetables with Parthenium or give to livestock during transportation

MONITOR

- Check weekly for Parthenium plants (which look like carrot plants when young)
- Check more frequently after rain, as rain encourages Parthenium growth
- Take steps to control Parthenium as soon as possible if you find it

ACT

- Pull plants up. Hoe larger plants. Get the roots out to avoid re-growth
- Bury uprooted plants to avoid spreading their seeds in the wind

For large areas you could also try herbicides to control Parthenium. Use:

- Aclonifen (trade names include Challenge) before crops emerge.
- Metribuzin (trade names include Sencor) after crops have emerged.

Always wear protective clothing and follow instructions on the product label, such as dosage, timing of application and pre-harvest interval.

It is best to control the plants when they are small, **before they** disperse their seeds