

Yellow Catsear (*Hypochaeris radicata*)

Asteraceae — Origin: Native of Europe, Asia and North Africa

- Invades grassy areas readily.
- Wind dispersed.
- Long term campaign to control this at Korinderie



Photo: FRUIT BUD



Look-alike native is: *Velleia paradoxa*



THREAT TO ENVIRONMENT

This weed invades any mown or slashed areas, or areas disturbed at all (even just by fire). Where it is slashed or mown it can increase in density to a point where it can exclude other species.

(For example, parts of Korinderie's 'middle ridge firebreak' used to have a density of over 100 plants / m²)

Because of this threat and the investment to date, controlling this plant is a priority. However, control requires consistent treatment from early to late summer each year and then diligent removal of the small numbers that remain until it is effectively eliminated from the area.

REMOVAL TECHNIQUES.

- Gently bag any (dandelion-like) seed, lever out taproot, break off (and bag) any buds or flowers and leave actual plant on ground without soil attached

- If affected areas too large to work by hand, it can be successfully sprayed with broad-leaf selective herbicide (metsulfuron + surfactant) in good growing conditions.

- If in a lawn and there is lots, mow off flowers to buy time if you can't get to it for a while.

Note: Mowing will not reduce this weed but tends to promote it, especially if mown while in seed.