**Control options**

**Chemical**

Many herbicides are not effective on gorse because of the shape of the ‘leaves’ and the thick cuticles on the spines, which help prevent absorption of herbicides. Contact your local contractor or agrichemical supplier to find the best product and/or application method for your situation.

**Application methods**

- Cut stump and apply a suitable herbicide
- Knapsack
- Gun and hose
- Aerial
- Apply a granular herbicide to individual plants

**Mechanical**

- Trimming
- Mowing
- Grubbing
- Rotary slashers

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*Gorse and broom are widespread and scattered across Canterbury. We are focusing our efforts on the hill and high country zone shown above.*

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**More information**

www.ecan.govt.nz/pests
(pages 47 to 49, 56 to 58)
What does broom look like?
Broom is a deciduous shrub which grows up to 2.5m tall. It is most recognisable by its distinctive upright green stems. Broom normally grows in areas of high rainfall and can tolerate a wide range of soil conditions.

Flowers
› Large yellow flowers
› Flowers bloom October to November

Fruit/Seed
› Brownish-black flattened seed pods - similar to gorse.
› Seeds are ejected from their pods to up to 10m away.

Leaf
› Pliable, upright, ridged green stems that may have small leaves.
› However, broom stems may also be leafless.

What does gorse look like?
Gorse is a deep-rooted woody perennial that can grow up to 4m high.

Flowers
› Yellow pea-like flowers.

Fruit/Seed
› Brownish-black flattened seed pods.
› Seeds are ejected from their pods to up to 10m away.

Leaf
› Seedlings’ leaves are initially made up of three ‘leaflet’.
› Later, the leaves of gorse take the form of sharp spines.

DID YOU KNOW...

Government officials in the 1800s encouraged planting gorse hedgerows because they provided cheap fencing and shelter in areas prone to snow and cold winds.