

WEEDS  
Of the  
MOORABOOL and  
GOLDEN PLAINS  
SHIRES



A FIELD  
IDENTIFICATION GUIDE



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Background information was sourced from:

- Blood, K. 2001. *Environmental Weeds – A Field Guide for SE Australia*.
- Lamp, C and Collet, F. 2002. *Field Guide to Weeds in Australia*
- North Central Catchment Management Authority. 2003. *Weeds of the North Central Region*.
- Parsons, W and Cuthbertson, E. 2001. *Noxious Weeds of Australia*.
- Port Phillip and Westernport CMA, *Port Phillip and Westernport Weed Action Plan 2000—2005*
- Corangamite CMA Weed Plan 2001

## Photos

Courtesy of DSE, Golden Plains Shire and Moorabool Shire Council.

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## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this booklet is to provide a locally relevant field guide that will assist land managers to identify the main weeds in Central Victoria.

This booklet addresses some of the weeds which are declared under the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994* and those which currently have a widespread impact on agricultural and environmental values in the region.

There are many weed species which have not been included but should be recognized as having potential to cause environmental problems in future.

## THE MOORABOOL & GOLDEN PLAINS REGION

The semi-rural municipalities of Moorabool and Golden Plains cover a geographical area including the Brisbane Ranges National Park, Lerderderg State Park, Werribee Gorge State Park plus many small reserves, all providing significant habitat for plants and animals.

At the Moorabool Shire largely lies within a rain shadow, much of the Shire hosts semi-arid vegetation more typical of the drier inland areas.

## Moorabool Shire



## Golden Plains Shire



## LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

In Victoria, Declared Noxious Weeds are classified as State Prohibited, Regionally Prohibited, Regionally Controlled or Restricted in Victoria under the *Catchment and Land Protection (CaLP) Act 1994*.

### *State Prohibited Weeds*

State Prohibited Weeds include those that do not yet occur in Victoria but pose a significant threat if they were to invade.

Control of these weeds is the responsibility of the Department of Primary Industries (DPI).

### *Regionally Prohibited Weeds*

Regionally Prohibited Weeds are not widely distributed in the region but are capable of spreading further.

Control is the responsibility of the private and public land managers on their land.

### *Regionally Controlled Weeds*

Regionally Controlled Weeds exist in the region and are usually widespread. Continued control measures are required to prevent further spread to clean land.

Control is the responsibility of private and public land managers

### *Undeclared Weeds*

These weeds are not classified under the *Catchment and Land Protection (CaLP) Act 1994*, but are recognised as a serious threat to agriculture and the environment.

### *Restricted Weeds*

These weeds are a serious threat to primary production, Crown land, the environment or community health in another State or Territory of Australia. Trade in these weeds and materials containing them is prohibited.

## NEW & EMERGING WEEDS

New weed species are those that do not currently occur in the region but have the potential to be introduced and would have a significant impact on Moorabool and Golden Plains Shires.

Emerging weed species are those assessed as threatening that have been found in the region.

- Alligator weed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)
- Black Knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*)
- Lobed Needle Grass (*Nassella charruana*)
- Mexican Feather Grass (*Nassella tenuissima*)

## HIGH PRIORITY & REGIONAL PRIORITY WEEDS

These weeds species are established in the region and in some cases are widespread. Eradication of these species is generally not feasible, therefore the goal is to reduce and contain the infestations.

- Bridal Creeper (*Asparagus asparagoides*)
- Chilean Needlegrass (*Nassella neesiana*)
- Serrated Tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*)
- St John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- St Peter's Wort (*Hypericum tetrapterum*)
- Wild Garlic (*Allium vineale*)

## OTHER WEEDS

There are many other weed species established in the region. Many illustrated in this booklet will benefit from active best practice land management.

## ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS

*What are Environmental Weeds?*

Environmental weeds are plant species that predominately invade natural areas and compete with or choke out native plant species.

*Why are they a problem?*

Environmental weeds cause damage to indigenous plant communities by competing for light, nutrients, water, space and pollinators.

Weed species also tend to provide greater harbour for pest animal species and some can be poisonous to animals and stock.

*Where have they come from?*

Some environmental weeds may have been introduced accidentally, however most have been introduced as garden plants that have escaped into the environment.

The most common methods of spread are from dumped garden waste, planting in inappropriate areas and from birds or animals spreading seed.



## HOW WEEDS SPREAD

Weeds may be spread in many different ways. Some of the main methods of dispersal are listed below:

- Seed eaten by animals
- Seeds carried on the fur of animals
- Seed carried on machinery and vehicles
- Movement of seed in soil
- Garden escapees
- Seed or plant pieces spread by digging
- Seed eaten or carried by stock
- Seed or plant pieces carried by wind or water

Symbols are used in the descriptions to show methods of control and toxicity to people and stock.



Mechanical removal



Chemical control



Hand removal



Fire



Toxic to stock or humans

The best time to control a weed species is highlighted in a shaded box.

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## METHODS OF CONTROL

### MECHANICAL CONTROL

Digging is very effective for controlling small infestations, ensuring that all root matter has been removed.

### CHEMICAL CONTROL

An appropriate herbicide is applied to the weeds by spray application or cut and paste, taking care near indigenous species. Seek advice when applying herbicide near waterways.

### HAND REMOVAL

Hand pulling to remove small infestations or isolated plants which do not have extensive root systems.

### FIRE

Burning will destroy many seeds and break the dormancy of others. The newly germinated seeds may then be eradicated by mechanical means or herbicide.

### TOXICITY TO STOCK OR HUMANS

Marked with a skull and crossbones, these weeds may have a detrimental effect on stock, humans or both.

### PASTURE IMPROVEMENT

A program of nutrient improvement, compaction reduction and appropriate pasture selection to achieve vegetation cover and maximize competition with weeds.

Priority Weeds of  
Moorabool and  
Golden Plains Shires

## AFRICAN BOXTHORN

*Lycium ferocissimum*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** White with purple markings in the throat. Occurring singly or in pairs. Appearing mainly in summer.

**LEAVES:** Glossy green, oval and fleshy when plant is active.

**STEMS:** Erect, woody, much branched, bearing spines up to 15cm at the end of branches.

**FRUIT:** A short stemmed berry changing from green to red when mature.

**SEED:** Light brown or yellow. Smooth, yellow to light brown, and dull with small raised dots on the surface.

**CONTROL:** Hand pulling, cut and paint, chemical spraying, drill and fill and mechanical.



## ARTICHOKE THISTLE

*Cynara cardunculus*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** Purple to blue in 7-13cm heads at the end of the stems. Surrounded by stiff spines. Flowers during summer.

**LEAVES:** Base grey-green leaves up to 90cm long but shorter towards the top. Deeply toothed with each tooth ending with a sharp spine.

**STEMS:** Upright, strongly ribbed and covered in hairs. Up to 2m in height.

**SEED:** Brown or black, streaked length wise 6-8mm long.

**CONTROL:** Chemical spraying & mechanical control.



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BATHURST BURR  
*Xanthium spinosum*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** Inconspicuous creamy green flowers formed at the end of the stems and leaf nodes during summer.

**LEAVES:** Shiny dark green above and pale green and downy underneath. Leaves are alternate and clasp the stem.

**STEMS:** Greenish yellow and covered in fine hairs with sharp golden spikes.

**FRUIT:** Straw coloured burr covered with small hooks.

**CONTROL:** Chemical spraying, pasture improvement and mechanical control.



# BLACKBERRY

*Rubus fruticosus*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** White or pink in clusters at the end of short branches.

**LEAVES:** Dark green on the upper side and lighter underneath. Leaves may shed in winter.

**STEMS:** Thorny stems, may be erect, or arched, green to reddish purple with new plants forming at the stem tips.

**FRUIT:** A berry changing colour from red to black as it ripens, containing one seed.

**CONTROL:** Cut and paint, chemical spraying, mechanical, hand pulling.



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BRIDAL CREEPER/SMILAX  
*Asparagus asparagoides*

STATUS: Restricted Weed



FLOWERS: White, 1cm in diameter, appearing in leaf axils during August to September.

LEAVES: Glossy green, alternate and oval with pointed tips.

STEMS: Slender, branching and twining, to 3m long where supported.

FRUIT: A round berry to 6-10mm turning red, sticky when mature.

SEED: Black, shiny, 3-4mm in diameter.

CONTROL: Chemical spraying and hand pulling.





CAPE BROOM  
*Genista monspessulana*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



STEMS: Upright, woody and ridged.

LEAVES: Short stalks and made up of three leaflets, hairy underneath. Middle leaflet is longer than the others.

FLOWERS: Bright yellow, pea-like, to 1.2cm long on short stalks, singly or in clusters.

FRUIT: A brown or black flat silky pod containing 5-8 seeds, coiled after seed release.

SEED: Dark brown to black, 2mm, rounded smooth and shiny.

CONTROL: Mechanical, chemical spraying, burning and revegetation.



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## CHILEAN NEEDLE GRASS

*Nassella neesiana*

STATUS: Restricted Weed



**FLOWERS:** A loose flowering head to 40cm long

**LEAVES:** Narrow, hairless or sparsely hairy, flat or slightly in-rolled leaves; up to 30cm long and 5mm wide.

**SEED:** Stem seed is produced at swellings along the stem and at the leaf base. The pale brown, warty seed is 8-10mm long with an awn or tail bent at 2 points. The bracts around the seed are purple.

**CONTROL:** Pasture management, chemical spraying, burning and revegetation.



## ENGLISH BROOM

*Cytisus scoparius*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** Bright yellow, pea like 2-2.5cm long; occurring singly or in pairs in leaf axis.

**LEAVES:** Each leaf consists of three soft leaflets

**STEMS:** Green to brown with prominent ridges, erect, woody multi branched.

**FRUIT:** A brown or black pod, 5cm long containing 6-20 seeds, coiled after the release of the seeds.

**SEED:** Yellow brown, shiny, rounded, flattened 3-4mm long.

**CONTROL:** Burning, mechanical and chemical spraying.



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Gorse  
*Ulex europaeus*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



FLOWERS: Bright yellow pea like flowers produced in leaf axils and terminal clusters between July to October and March to May.

LEAVES: Dark green, narrow and spiny, 1-3cm long.

STEMS: Green when young, becoming ridged woody and spiny.

FRUIT: Dark coloured pod, containing 2-6 seeds

SEED: Green to brown, triangular in shape, smooth and shiny.  
margins.

CONTROL: Hand pulling, mechanical, chemical spraying, cut and paint and burning.



## HAWTHORN

*Crataegus monogyna*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



FLOWERS: White, cream or pink, strongly scented, 8-12mm in diameter, in flat topped clusters at the end of small branches.

LEAVES: Green, variable, divided into lobes and coarsely serrated.

STEMS: Erect, multi-branched with many small branches ending in stout spines.

FRUIT: Clusters of deep red berries, 8mm in diameter

CONTROL: Hand pulling, chemical spraying, cut and paint or scrape and paint.



J F M A M J J A S O N D

## HEMLOCK

*Conium maculatum*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** White, 2-4mm in diameter, five petals, numerous in a dense head.

**LEAVES:** Alternate, fern-like to 50cm long with deeply cut segments, emitting a strong odour when crushed.

**STEMS:** Long marked with grooves and purple blotches.

**FRUIT:** Grey or brown, consisting of two sections each 2-4mm long, arched with five prominent ribs.

**CONTROL:** Hand pulling, mechanical control, chemical spraying, smothering and mulching.





## HOREHOUND *Marrubium vulgare*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** White in dense rounded clusters surrounding the stem at the leaf junction.

**LEAVES:** Blue green with a silvery appearance, crinkled and leathery, to 7cm diameter with serrated edges

**STEMS:** Woody at the base, covered with dense hairs and branched at the top.

**FRUIT:** A burr made up of backward curved hooked spines.

**SEED:** Brown or black, 4 in each burr, to 2mm long and slightly roughened.

**CONTROL:** Hand pulling, burning, mechanical and chemical spraying.



J F M A M J J A S O N D

## PATERSONS CURSE

*Echium plantagineum*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** Purple, trumpet shaped to 3cm long in curved clusters at the end of stems. from August to September

**LEAVES:** Rosette and base leaves oval to 25cm long, with prominent veins. Stem leaves are smaller and clasp the stem.

**STEMS:** Usually several stems arising from the base and covered with hairy bristles.

**SEED:** Brown to grey, 2-3mm long. Strongly wrinkled and pitted.

**CONTROL:** Mechanical, pasture improvement, burning and chemical spraying.





## PRAIRIE GROUND CHERRY

*Physalis viscosa*

STATUS: Prohibited Weed



**FLOWERS:** Yellow, bell shaped to 3cm diameter. Produced in summer on short stalks in upper leaf axils.

**LEAVES:** Light green, lance shaped with wavy margins and fine hairs on veined edges.

**STEMS:** Branched, spreading, and ribbed with very short hairs.

**FRUIT:** An orange berry enclosed in a Chinese lantern like case when ripe, 1-1.5cm diameter.

**SEED:** Yellow or light brown, numerous.

**CONTROL:** Hand pulling and chemical spraying.



J F M A M J J A S O N D

## PRICKLY PEAR

*Opuntia stricta*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed.



**FLOWERS:** A succulent with yellow flowers on the fleshy segments margins. Flowers late spring to summer.

**LEAVES:** Small and shed as the segments mature.

**STEMS:** Fleshy, leaf like joints .

**FRUIT:** Oval shaped, has a deep cavity on one end and tapers at the other.

**SEED:** Purple with carmine coloured seeds in a fleshy pulp.

**CONTROL:** Chemical spraying, mechanical and pasture improvement.



## SERRATED TUSsock

*Nassella trichotoma*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed PPCMA  
Prohibited CCMA



**FLOWERS:** Distinctive dark purple colour on delicate stems.

**LEAVES:** Tightly rolled leaf like a needle. Leaf base is whitish with upward pointing barbs on the leaf blade to a height of 60cm.

**STEMS:** Delicate and supple.

**SEED:** Self-fertilised sharp seeds are held in the nodes and at the base of stems.

**CONTROL:** Prevent re-establishment of seedlings and eradicate adult plants by cultivation or spraying. Establish a perennial pasture to provide long term control.



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## SOURSOP

*Oxalis pes-caprae*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** Bright yellow, trumpet shaped, opening in sunlight and closing in dull conditions. Flowers in winter and early spring.

**LEAVES:** Green, consisting of 3 heart shaped leaflets. Leaflets fold back at night and in dull light.

**STEMS:** Erect, fleshy, leafless, usually 10-30cm long.

**BULB & BULBIL:** Bulbs are conical in shape with bulbils surrounding them in clusters.

**CONTROL:** Mechanical, chemical and spraying.



## SPEAR THISTLE

*Cirsium vulgare*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



**FLOWERS:** Pinkish purple, 3-5cm in diameter either solitary or in small clusters on the branch tips. Flowers from late spring to autumn.

**LEAVES:** Dark green, rough and hairy on upper surface, whitish beneath with spiky margins.

**STEMS:** Much branched towards the top.

**SEED:** Grey or light brown, 3-5mm long with longitudinal markings. Somewhat flattened and sometimes slightly curved.

**CONTROL:** Pasture improvement, mechanical and chemical spraying.



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## SPINY RUSH

*Juncus acutus*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed



FLOWERS: Small, green to reddish brown, in clusters near the top of the stem, all year round.

LEAVES: Dark green, stem-like, tapering to a very sharp spine.

STEMS: Numerous, arising from rhizomes, and emerging from the base at angles.

FRUIT: A brownish 3 celled capsule, pointed at the tip.

SEED: Numerous in each capsule 1mm long, irregularly shaped with papery attachments.

CONTROL: Mechanical, burning and chemical spraying.





## SWEET BRIAR

*Rosa rubiginosa*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled



FLOWERS: Pink or white, 2.5-4cm in diameter, forming loose clusters at the ends of branches.

Flowering in spring/summer

STEMS: Multi-stemmed, smooth when young but becoming prickly with maturity. Arched towards the top and bearing many thorns.

FRUIT: An orange to red capsule to 2cm long, with short spines.

SEED: Yellow 4-7mm long, numerous in each fruit, held within the fleshy fruit.

CONTROL: Mechanical removal and chemical spraying or cut and paste.



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## STJOHNS WORT

*Hypericum perforatum*

STATUS: Prohibited Weed



**FLOWERS:** Bright yellow, with 5 petals in clusters at the end of the branches. Occurring late spring and summer

**LEAVES:** Opposite, to 3cm long, small oil glands give a perforated appearance.

**STEMS:** Several reddish woody stems rise from the base.

**FRUIT:** A sticky, narrowly ovoid capsule, to 8 mm long.

**SEED:** Dark-brown or black, 1 mm long, cylindrical and pitted.

**CONTROL:** Mechanical removal, chemical spraying





## TOPPED LAVENDER *Lavendula stoechas*

STATUS: Restricted Weed



**FLOWERS:** Flowers are deep purple and fragrant in cylindrical heads topped with ear-like violet bracts.

**LEAVES:** The leaves are downy, greyish-green and fragrant, with a smooth margin.

**STEMS:** Rounded and green.

**SEEDS:** Small, dark, dispersed after flowering.

**CONTROL:** Herbicide application, mechanical control.

**CONTROL:** Cut and paint and mechanical control.



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## WILD TEASEL *Dipsacus fullonum*

STATUS: Regionally Controlled Weed.



FLOWERS: Pink, purple or lilac heads are solitary at the end of branches, surrounded by long upwardly curved bracts.

LEAVES: Large rosette leaves, rough with prickles along scalloped margins.

STEMS: Ridged or angled.

SEED: Yellow to grey brown, rectangular 3-5mm long and 1-1.5mm wide.

CONTROL: Mechanical and chemical spraying.



Environmental  
Weeds of  
Moorabool and  
Golden Plains  
Shires

**BLANKET WEED**  
*Galenia pubescens*

STATUS: Environmental Weed  
ORIGIN: USA



**FLOWERS:** Solitary, inconspicuous and tubular in pink, white or yellow to 2-3mm.

**LEAVES:** Alternate, oval with a smooth edge and leathery to touch.

**SEED:** A three to five lobed capsule contains 2-5 black ribbed or triangular seeds.

**CONTROL:** Cut down mature plants, hand pull seedlings. Cut and paint younger plants and dispose of ripe seeds carefully.



## BLUE PERIWINKLE

*Vinca major*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: Mediterranean



STEMS: Prostrate stems up to 1 m long growing plantlets at the tips.

LEAVES: Dark green and shiny.

FLOWERS: Blue-purple petals twisted anticlockwise and squared at the ends from May to December.

SEED: Fertile seed is rarely produced.

CONTROL: Hand pulling, chemical spraying, solarisation and smothering or mulching.



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## COOTAMUNDRA WATTLE

*Acacia baileyana*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: Native to New South Wales



**FLOWERS:** Fluffy yellow balls 6-8mm from June to September

**LEAVES:** Leaves are fern-like, silver blue-grey with up to 24 pairs of tiny leaflets, 6 - 8mm long.

**STEMS:** Smooth and green-brown

**SEED:** Huge numbers of brown to black seeds are produced in flattened pods, blue-grey becoming red-brown.

**CONTROL:** Cut down mature plants, hand pull seedlings. Cut and paint younger plants and dispose of ripe seeds carefully. Avoid burning large infestations.



## COTONEASTER

*Cotoneaster species*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: China



FLOWERS: White clusters, each flower about 8mm wide with five petals, flowering Spring and Summer.

LEAVES: 3-8cm long with a dull green surface and a woolly surface beneath.

STEMS: Dark brown, with flexible new tips

SEED: A red berry containing two seeds persisting over Winter.

CONTROL: Hand pull seedlings and cut and paste or scrape and paint mature plants.



J F M A M J J A S O N D



## ENGLISH IVY

*Hedera helix*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: Europe



FLOWERS: Greenish, small and inconspicuous in large clusters

LEAF: Dark green, glossy and lobed or hand-like.

STEM: Aerial roots along the stems for attachment

SEED: A dark blue-black berry which germinates in Spring

CONTROL: Hand pulling of seedlings, mechanical control and cut and paint of mature plants.





GAZANIA species  
*Gazania*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: South Africa



FLOWERS: Multi-petalled open faced daisy-like flower in autumn tones

LEAVES: Dark green, glossy on the upper surface with one main rib, to 20cm in length.

STEMS: Stems held vertically above the foliage

SEEDS: Numerous fine seeds, wind borne.

CONTROL: Herbicide application, mechanical or hand pulling.



J F M A M J J A S O N D

# HOLLY

*Ilex aquifolium*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: Europe



**FLOWERS:** Small off-white flowers are born in the leaf axils, developing into a red berry in Autumn on female trees.

**LEAF:** Dark green and wavy with irregular prickles along the margin when mature. Young leaves are rounded.

**STEM:** Pale grey and smooth.

**SEED:** Four to five per berry, held on the tree over Winter.

**CONTROL:** Hand pulling of seedlings, cut and paint of mature plants.



# HONEYSUCKLE

*Lonicera japonica*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: East Asia



FLOWERS: Flowers are yellow to cream and perfumed, crimson on the outside.

LEAVES: The leaves are ovate to 5cm, matt green and opposite.

STEMS: Rounded and green

SEEDS: Round black shiny seeds .5 to 1cm

CONTROL: Herbicide application, mechanical control and burning.



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## MIRROR BUSH

*Coprosma species*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: New Zealand



FLOWERS: Small and greenish flowers are held in small clusters. Male and females flowers are held on separate shrubs.

LEAVES: Evergreen with oval, fleshy, shiny leaves

STEMS: Green, supple and smooth.

SEED: Contained within an orange to red berry during Autumn.

CONTROL: Cut and paste or hand pull seedlings.



## PEPPERCORN

*Schinus molle*

STATUS: Environmental Weed.

ORIGIN: South America



FLOWERS: Flowers hang in clusters with male and female flowers on separate plants

LEAVES: Drooping fern-like leaves with many leaflets, emitting an aroma when crushed.

STEMS: Woody and smooth.

FRUIT: Flowers on the female trees develop into bright red berries with a hard stone

SEED: The seed is very hard and germinates best when passed through the guts of birds.

CONTROL: Mechanical removal or cut and paste.



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## PHALARIS

*Phalaris aquatica*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: Mediterranean



**FLOWER:** A tall erect perennial grass with a cylindrical spike 15-125mm long.

**LEAVES:** Mainly at the base but also up the stems, to 50cm long and 20mm wide, flat bluish green and clasping the stem.

**STEMS:** To 1.5m in height, upright habit.

**SEED:** Light brown and about 2.5 mm long and 1.2mm wide; hairy. Spread is by animals, machinery, soil, vehicles and water.

**CONTROL:** Heavy grazing or regular slashing to reduce seed set. Dig or spot spray isolated plants and remove the seed head.





## RADIATA PINE

*Pinus radiata*

STATUS: Environmental Weed.

ORIGIN: USA



FLOWERS: Inconspicuous small flowering cones.

LEAVES: Soft dark green needles, growing in groups of three.

STEMS: Dark grey with a strong pine fragrance.

FRUIT/SEED: Winged paper thin seeds are contained in oval pine cones.

CONTROL: Hand pulling, chemical spraying, cut and paint and burning.



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## SPANISH HEATH

*Erica lusitánica*

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: Europe



FLOWERS: White to pink flowers, clustered at the end of short side branches.

LEAVES: Densely covered, narrow, arranged in rings around the stem.

STEMS: Brittle and woody.

FRUIT: A small capsule, about 3mm long.

SEED: 80-100 seeds per capsule.

CONTROL: Hand pulling, chemical spraying and cut and paint.



## TREE LUCERNE (*Chamaecytisus proliferus*)

STATUS: Environmental Weed

ORIGIN: Canary Islands



FLOWERS: Flowers are white, and pea-shaped, in small clusters in the leaf axils

STEMS: Rough yellow-grey bark with velvety young growth.

FRUIT: A flat pea-like pod green, ripening to black.

SEED: Seeds are shiny and black like wattle seed.

CONTROL: Mechanical removal, cut and paste or fire.



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## GLOSSARY

*Annual* – A plant that grows, flowers and sets seed within one year

*indigenous flora* – A group of plants which have adapted naturally to local climatic and soil conditions.

*Noxious Weed* – Declared under legislation and a problem to natural areas, primary production, the environment or affecting human health.

*Perennial* – A plant that grows, flowers and sets seed, repeating the cycle over several years.

*Riparian* – Zone along the sides of a waterway

*Weed* – A plant out of place



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East Moorabool  
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