



Declared noxious weeds - Listed by category

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Updated: April 2006

LC0252c

ISSN 1329-833X

This note describes the legislative classification of weeds in Victoria, outlines the responsibilities of land owners for control of weeds and the legal restrictions on trade and dispersal of noxious weeds, and provides a list of noxious weeds with their current classifications.

Declared noxious weeds in Victoria are plants that have been proclaimed under the *Catchment and Land Protection (CaLP) Act 1994*. These plants cause environmental or economic harm or have the potential to cause such harm. They can also present risks to human health. The Act defines four categories of noxious weeds:

- State Prohibited Weeds
- Regionally Prohibited Weeds
- Regionally Controlled Weeds
- Restricted Weeds.

The Regions referred to are the ten catchment Regions in Victoria (see map). Each Region recommends to the Minister, through a Catchment Management Authority (CMA), which plants should be declared noxious weeds, and the categories in which they should be placed.



Figure 1. Victoria's Catchment Management Regions.

Plants have also been proclaimed noxious under the *Fisheries Act 1995* and are known as:

- Noxious Aquatic Species

State Prohibited Weeds

These weeds either do not occur in Victoria but pose a significant threat if they invade, or are present, pose a serious threat and can reasonably be expected to be eradicated. If present, infestations of a State Prohibited Weed are relatively small. They are to be eradicated if possible from Victoria or excluded from the State. The Victorian Government is responsible for their eradication,

but under Section 70(1) of the CaLP Act it may direct land owners to prevent their growth and spread. These weeds are listed in Table 1.

Regionally Prohibited Weeds

In general Regionally Prohibited Weeds are not widely distributed in a Region but are capable of spreading further. It is reasonable to expect that they can be eradicated from a Region and they must be managed with that purpose. Land owners, including public authorities responsible for Crown land management, must eradicate or control these weeds on their lands. Private landholders are responsible for control on private land but not on roadsides adjoining their property, which are the responsibility of VicRoads, municipalities or DSE, depending on the class of road. Further information can be obtained from local DSE/DPI offices. These weeds are listed and marked with a "P" in Table 2.

Regionally Controlled Weeds

These weeds are usually widespread and are considered important in a particular Region. To prevent their spread, continuing control measures are required. Land owners have the responsibility to take all reasonable steps to control and prevent the spread and growth of Regionally Controlled weeds on their land and the roadsides that adjoin their land. However certain roadsides are exempt. Contact the Regional DSE/DPI office for further advice. These weeds are listed and marked with a "C" in Table 2.

Restricted Weeds

This category includes plants that are a serious threat to primary production, Crown land, the environment or community health in another State or Territory of Australia, which have the potential to spread into and within Victoria, and pose an unacceptable risk of spreading in this State or to other parts of Australia if they were to be sold or traded in Victoria. Trade in these weeds and materials containing them is prohibited. See the list in Table 3.

Fisheries Act Noxious Aquatic Species

These plants pose a serious threat to a fishery, the aquatic environment or human health. It is an offence to bring into Victoria or possess, sell, transport or release them. See the list in Table 4.



Table 1. State Prohibited Weeds, proclaimed in the Victorian Government Gazettes of 18 December 1997, 22 May 2003 and 5 April 2006.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acacia erioloba</i>	Giraffe Thorn
<i>Acacia karroo</i>	Karoo Thorn
<i>Alhagi maurorum</i>	Camel Thorn
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	Alligator Weed
<i>Ambrosia psilostachya</i>	Perennial Ragweed
<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	Marijuana
<i>Carduus nutans</i>	Nodding Thistle
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Black Knapweed
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water Hyacinth
<i>Equisetum</i> spp.	Horsetail
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed
<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i>	Giant Knotweed
<i>Fallopia x bohemica</i>	Japanese Knotweed hybrid
<i>Festuca gautieri</i>	Bear-skin Fescue
<i>Hieracium</i> spp.	Hawkweed
<i>Hypericum triquetrifolium</i>	Tangled Hypericum
<i>Iva axillaries</i>	Poverty Weed
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	Lagarosiphon
<i>Malvella leprosa</i> (gazetted as <i>Sida leprosa</i>)	Ivy-leaved Sida
<i>Nassella charruana</i>	Lobed Needle Grass
<i>Nassella tenuissima</i>	Mexican Feather Grass
<i>Orobanche ramosa</i> *1	Branched Broomrape *1
<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>	Parthenium Weed
<i>Prosopis</i> spp.	Mesquite
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	Salvinia

*1 Also a declared exotic disease under the Plant Health and Plant Products Act 1995.

Table 3. Restricted Weeds, proclaimed in the Victoria Government Gazette of 27 October 2005.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acacia nilotica</i> subsp. <i>indica</i>	Prickly Acacia
<i>Annona glabra</i>	Pond Apple
<i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>	Bridal Creeper
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Cabomba
<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i>	Rubber Vine
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	Hymenachne
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Lantana
<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	Mimosa
<i>Nassella neesiana</i>	Chilean Needle-grass
<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Parkinsonia
<i>Salix</i> spp. *	Willows*
<i>Tamarix aphylla</i>	Athel Pine, Tamarisk

* Except *Salix alba* var. *caerulea*, *Salix alba* x *matsudana*, *Salix babylonica*, *Salix X calodendron*, *Salix caprea* 'Pendula', *Salix matsudana* 'Aurea', *Salix matsudana* 'Tortuosa', *Salix myrsinifolia* and *Salix X reichardtii*.

Table 4. Plants listed as Noxious Aquatic Species under the Fisheries Act.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>	Caulerpa
<i>Spartina anglica</i>	Ricegrass/Common Cordgrass
<i>Undaria</i>	Wakame Seaweed

Table 2. Regionally Prohibited and Regionally Controlled Weeds, proclaimed in the Victorian Government Gazette of 18 December 1997.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Mallee Wimm Glenelg- -era Hopkins	North Corang Central -amite	Port Phillip West	Port Phillip East *1	Goul- North burn East Broken	West Gipps -land	East Gipps -land
<i>Acroptilon repens</i>	Hardheads/Russian Knapweed	P P	C	P		C		
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of Heaven		C	C	C	C C		C
<i>Allium triquetrum</i>	Angled Onion			C	C			
<i>Allium vineale</i>	Wild Garlic	C P/C*3	C	C P	P	P C		
<i>Alternanthera pungens</i>	Khaki Weed	P	C			P		P
<i>Amsinckia</i> spp.	Amsinckia		C			C C		C
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Onion Weed	C*4	C		C			
<i>Calicotome spinosa</i>	Spiny Broom				C			
<i>Carduus tenuiflorus / C. pycnocephalus</i>	Slender/Shore Thistle		C		C	C C	C C	C C
<i>Carthamus lanatus</i>	Saffron Thistle		C C		C C	C C	C C	C C
<i>Cenchrus longispinus</i>	Spiny Burr Grass/Gentle Annie	C P P	C			C P		
<i>Centaurea calcitrapa</i>	Star Thistle						P	P
<i>Centaurea solstitialis</i>	St Barnaby's Thistle					C C		
<i>Cestrum parqui</i>	Chilean Cestrum	C *4				P P		P
<i>Chondrilla juncea</i>	Skeleton Weed		C			C		C
<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i>	Boneseed/Bitou Bush	P C C	P C	C C	C C	C C	P P	P P
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Californian/Perennial Thistle		P C	C C	C C	P P	C C	C C
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle		C		C		C C	C C
<i>Conium maculatum</i>	Hemlock		C	C C	C C		C C	C C
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	Bindweed		C		C		C	
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn		C		C		C C	C C
<i>Cuscuta</i> spp.	Dodder	C P	C			C C		
<i>Cynara cardunculus</i>	Artichoke Thistle	C	C	C C	C C	P		
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>	English Broom		C		C	C C	C C	C C
<i>Datura ferox</i>	Thorn Apple (Long-spine)		C C	C C	C C	P C	C C	C C
<i>Datura innoxia</i>	Thorn Apple (Recurved)		C	C C	C C	P C	C C	C C
<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Thorn Apple (Common)		C C	C C	C C	P C	C C	C C
<i>Diploaxis tenuifolia</i>	Sand Rocket/Sand Mustard		C		C C			
<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	Wild Teasel		C			P C	C C	C C
Scientific Name	Common Name	Mallee Wimm Glenelg- -era Hopkins	North Corang Central -amite	Port Phillip West	Port Phillip East *1	Goul- North burn East Broken	West Gipps -land	East Gipps -land

Scientific Name	Common Name	Mallee	Wimmera	Glenelg-Hopkins	North Central	Corangamite	Port Phillip West	Port Phillip East *1	Goulburn Broken	North East	West Gippsland	East Gippsland
<i>Dittrichia graveolens</i>	Stinkwort			C		C	C	C		C		
<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Paterson's Curse		C	C	C	C	C	C		C	C	C
<i>Echium vulgare</i>	Viper's Bugloss		C	C					C	C		
<i>Emex australis</i>	Spiny Emex	C							P			
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	African Love-grass	P			P		C		C	P	P	P
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Fennel			C		C		C			C	C
<i>Genista linifolia</i>	Flax-leaved Broom		C			C	C	C			C	P
<i>Genista monspessulana</i>	Cape Broom/ Montpellier Broom		C	C		C		C	C	C	C	C
<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i>	Tutsan					C	C	C	C	C	C	C
<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	St John's Wort		C	C	C	P	P	C	C	C	C	C
<i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i>	St Peter's Wort							P	P			
<i>Juncus acutus</i>	Spiny Rush	C	C	C	C	C	C			C	C	P
<i>Lavandula stoechas</i>	Topped Lavender				P			C	P	C	P	
<i>Lepidium draba</i> (gazetted as <i>Cardaria draba</i>)	Hoary Cress	P		C		C	C	C	C		P	P
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	Ox-eye Daisy					P			C	C	C	C
<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>	African Boxthorn	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	C
<i>Marrubium vulgare</i>	Horehound	C	C	C	C	C	P	C	C	C	C	C
<i>Melianthus comosus</i>	Tufted Honeyflower			C				P			P	
<i>Moraea flaccida</i> (gazetted as <i>Homeria flaccida</i>)	Cape Tulip (One-leaf)	P	P/C *2	C	C	P	C	P	P	P	P	P
<i>Moraea miniata</i> (gazetted as <i>Homeria miniata</i>)	Cape Tulip (Two-leaf)	P	P/C *2	C	C	P	C	P	P	P		
<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>	Serrated Tussock	P		C	P	P	C	C	P	P	C	P
<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>	Scotch/Heraldic Thistle			P	P			P	C	C	C	C
<i>Onopordum acaulon</i>	Stemless Thistle		C						C			P
<i>Onopordum illyricum</i>	Illyrian Thistle				P				P	P		
<i>Opuntia monacantha</i> (gazetted as <i>O. vulgaris</i>)	Prickly Pear (Drooping)	P			C		C			C		P
<i>Opuntia robusta</i>	Wheel Cactus	P	P		C					C		P
<i>Opuntia stricta</i>	Prickly Pear (Erect)	P			C		C			C	P	P
<i>Oxalis pes-caprae</i>	Soursob			C		C						
<i>Pennisetum macrourum</i>	African Feather-grass	P		P	P		C					
<i>Physalis viscosa</i>	Prairie Ground Cherry	P	P		C	C	P	C	C	P		P
<i>Picnoman acarna</i> (gazetted as <i>Cirsium arcana</i>)	Soldier Thistle		C		C				P			
<i>Proboscidea louisianica</i>	Devil's Claw (Purple-flower)								P	C		
<i>Proboscidea lutea</i> (gazetted as <i>Ibicella lutea</i>)	Devil's Claw (Yellow-flower)								P	C		
<i>Reseda luteola</i>	Wild Mignonette					C	C			C		
<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>	Sweet Briar		C	C		C	C	C	C	C	C	C
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Blackberry		C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
<i>Salpichroa origanifolia</i>	Pampas Lily-of-the-Valley			C					C		C	
<i>Scolymus hispanicus</i>	Golden Thistle			P	C		P	C	P			
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Ragwort			C		C	C	C	P		C	C
<i>Senecio pterophorus</i>	African Daisy	P	P	P	P			C	P	P		
<i>Silybum marianum</i>	Variegated Thistle			C		C		C	C	C	C	C
<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>	Silverleaf Nightshade	P	P		C			P	P	P		
<i>Solanum linnaeanum</i>	Apple of Sodom			C			C	C		P	C	C
<i>Solanum rostratum</i>	Buffalo Burr		P						P			
<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	Caltrop		C	P	C	C			C	C		
<i>Ulex europaeus</i>	Gorse/Furze		C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	P	P
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i>	Great Mullein					C	C		C	C	P	C
<i>Watsonia meriana</i> var. <i>bulbillifera</i> (gazetted as <i>W. meriana</i> 'Bulbillifera')	Wild Watsonia			C		C	C	C		C	C	C
<i>Xanthium spinosum</i>	Bathurst Burr		C	C	C	C	P		C	C	C	C
<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> (incl. <i>X. occidentale</i> & <i>X. orientale</i>)	Noogoora Burr / Californian Burr	C	P	P	C				C	C		

Key to symbols in the table of Regionally Prohibited and Regionally Controlled weeds

P = Regionally Prohibited C = Regionally Controlled

*1 The boundary between Port Phillip East and Port Phillip West is formed by the following Roads: Williamstown, Geelong, Tullamarine Freeway, Mickleham, Old Sydney, Arkells, Broadford-Wallan, North Mountain.

*2 Regionally Controlled Weed in Shire of West Wimmera; Regionally Prohibited Weed elsewhere.

*3 Regionally Controlled Weed in Shire of Hindmarsh; Regionally Prohibited Weed elsewhere.

*4 Regionally Controlled Weed in Shire of Northern Grampians only.

Strategic Approach

The Victorian government has adopted a strategic approach in the management of the risks posed by weeds. This is outlined in *Victorian Pest Management – A Framework for Action* and applied in Regional Weed Action Plans (RWAPs). Priority is given to:

- State Prohibited Weeds and weeds of regional significance as determined by CMAs. The RWAPs specify priority species and locations, and the management actions to be taken.
- Prevention and early intervention as the most cost effective means of weed management.
- Supporting community action that is based on a planned, long-term, integrated approach to land management and which results in public benefit.

Complying with the Catchment and Land Protection Act

DSE is responsible for administering the CaLP Act and employs Pest Management Officers through DPI to enforce provisions of the Act. Priority for enforcement is given to the species and locations determined to be of greatest importance by the CMA in each Region. Property owners who do not eradicate or control the Regionally Prohibited or Regionally Controlled weeds for which they are responsible may be issued with a Land Management Notice that requires specific control work to be undertaken. Failure to comply with the conditions of a Notice may result in court action and fines of over \$25,000.

Under the Act, DPI can also restrict the movement of grain, fodder, equipment or animals that are likely to spread noxious weeds. In the case of State Prohibited Weeds, DPI can direct a land owner to prevent the growth of the weed, or restrict the movement of grain, fodder, equipment, vehicles and animals where the weed is present.

There are no legal requirements to eradicate or control Restricted Weeds growing on land.

Sections 70 and 71 of the Act prohibit the following for all declared noxious weeds, irrespective of category or Region:

- The movement from land on to a road of:
 1. vehicles used for carrying hay, grain, fodder or livestock,
 2. vehicles used for carrying machinery or equipment for road and utility building or maintenance,
 3. machinery, implements or other equipment – without first taking precautions to ensure the equipment is free from noxious weed seeds and any other part of a noxious weed that is capable of growing (weed propagules).
- Purchase, sale, offering for sale or purchase, and possession for the purpose of sale of noxious weeds or their propagules.
- Removal or sale of soil, sand, gravel or stone which contains or is likely to contain any part of a noxious

weed, or which comes from land on which noxious weeds grow.

- Removal or sale of fodder or grain containing noxious weed propagules.
- Sale, hire, or offering for hire of a substance or machine for use in primary production that contains noxious weed propagules.
- Sale of an animal carrying seeds of a noxious weed, except directly to an approved meat processing facility.
- Transport of a noxious weed or its propagules within Victoria.
- Deposition on land of a noxious weed or its seeds.

Offenders can be required to remove the weed from any infested goods, or destroy the weed immediately or within a specified time. Infested goods can be impounded. Noxious weeds possessed illegally or being offered for sale can be seized.

Permits that allow a specifically prohibited activity may be granted if special circumstances apply.

Further Information

Your local Pest Management Officer can provide detailed information and advice on weed management.

Acknowledgements

Assistance with compilation from Mark Watt, Michael Hansford, Penny Gillespie, Leigh Dennis, Daniel Joubert, El Bruzzese, David Cummings, David McKenzie, Peter Goodson and Stefan Kaiser. Robert Nink provided the map.

The previous version of this note was published in January 2006.

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