

Impact Assessment Record

Scientific Name: *Hypericum canariense*

Common name: Canary Is. St John's Wort

QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE
Social			
1. Restrict human access?	Many-branched shrub which can grow from one to 5 metres tall (Randall 2002). Species can be used in borders. Plant is likely to impede individual access.	ML	H
2. Reduce tourism?	Has 'numerous bright yellow flowers and an attractive shrubby habit (Randall 2002). Most noticeable during its flowering period (spring) (Starr et al 2003). Weed would have minor effect on aesthetics.	ML	H
3. Injurious to people?	Weed not documented to be injurious in any way.	L	MH
4. Damage to cultural sites?	Has 'numerous bright yellow flowers and an attractive shrubby habit (Randall 2002). Most noticeable during its flowering period (spring) (Starr et al 2003). Weed would have a moderate visual effect.	ML	H
Abiotic			
5. Impact flow?	Terrestrial species.	L	H
6. Impact water quality?	Terrestrial species.	L	H
7. Increase soil erosion?	Shrub is dense and multi-stemmed. Although foliage drops, unlikely that soil would be exposed for any length of time. Low probability of large scale soil movement.	L	MH
8. Reduce biomass?	'Highly competitive plant which displaces virtually all lower storey species' (Randall 2002). Biomass may increase.	L	H
9. Change fire regime?	Multi-stemmed scrub with foliage dropping in late summer (Dlugosch 2004). 'Dense growth in dry environments, carries few leaves' (PIER 2005). Plant would have minor effect on fire risk.	ML	MH
Community Habitat			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC= Plains Grassy Woodland (E.); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Victorian Volcanic Plain; CLIMATE potential=VH. Major displacement of some dominant species within the lower storey.	MH	H
(b) medium value EVC	EVC= Grassy Woodland (D); CMA=West Gippsland; Bioreg=Highland Southern Fall; CLIMATE potential=VH. Major displacement of some dominant species within the lower storey.	MH	H
(c) low value EVC	EVC= Granitic Hills Woodland (LC); CMA=Goulburn Broken; Bioreg=Northern Inland Slopes; CLIMATE potential=VH. Major displacement of some dominant species within the lower storey.	MH	H
11. Impact on structure?	'Highly competitive plant which displaces virtually all lower storey species' (Randall 2002). Major effect on less than 60% of floral strata.	MH	H
12. Effect on threatened flora?	This species is not documented as posing an additional risk to threatened flora.	MH	L

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Fauna			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?	This species is not documented as posing an additional risk to threatened fauna.	MH	L
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	Plant not documented to have an effect on non-threatened fauna.	L	MH
15. Benefits fauna?	Plant not known to provide benefits to indigenous fauna.	H	MH
16. Injurious to fauna?	Plant doesn't have burrs or spines (PIER 2005) and not known to be toxic.	L	MH
Pest Animal			
17. Food source to pests?	Weed not documented as a food source to pest animals.	L	MH
18. Provides harbor?	Weed not known to provide harbour for pest species.	L	MH
Agriculture			
19. Impact yield?	Not known as a weed of agriculture (Randall 2002).	L	H
20. Impact quality?	Not a weed of cropping (Randall 2002).	L	H
21. Affect land value?	Weed not documented to affect land value. Can be controlled by herbicides (PIER 2005).	L	MH
22. Change land use?	Not documented to cause a change in priority of land use. Can be controlled by herbicides (PIER 2005).	L	MH
23. Increase harvest costs?	Not known as a weed of agriculture (Randall 2002).	L	H
24. Disease host/vector?	Not documented as a host or vector for disease of agriculture.	L	MH

References cited:

Dlugosch, K. 2004, *Hypericum canariense* (Canary Island St Johnswort), University of California, Santa Cruz, viewed 10 Jan 2006, <http://bio.research.ucsc.edu/people/parker/hypericum/>

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Randall, R. 2002, 'Weed potential of Canary Islands St. John's wort, *Hypericum canariense* L. (Clusiaceae)', *Weed Science*,

Starr, F., Starr, K. & Loope, L. 2003, *Hypericum canariense*: Canary Islands St Johnswort, Clusiaceae, Plants of Hawaii, Hawaiian Ecosystems at Risk Project, viewed 11 Jan 2006,
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Revisions

Date	Revised by	Revision
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