

QUESTION	COMMENTS	REFERENCE	RANKING
<b>Social</b>			
1. Restrict human access?	Grass 30 to 120 cm high. Low nuisance value to humans; not likely restrict access.	P & C (2001)	<b>ML</b>
2. Reduce tourism?	“Found in disturbed soils on roadsides, railway tracks, river banks and waste places.” Apart from its nuisance value when accessing rivers, it is unlikely to affect tourism.	P & C (2001)	<b>ML</b>
3. Injurious to people?	No recorded toxic effects.		<b>L</b>
4. Damage to cultural sites?	As a grass, this sp. unlikely to affect the structure of historical or cultural features. Presence is noticeable and it is, “capable of dominating the ground-flora on lighter soils.” Moderate visual effect.	Muyt (2001)	<b>ML</b>
<b>Abiotic</b>			
5. Impact flow?	Although it grows on riverbanks, there is no indication it affects water flow.	P & C (2001)	<b>L</b>
6. Impact water quality?	Not known to affect water quality		<b>L</b>
7. Increase soil erosion?	A cultivar of <i>E. curvula</i> complex is used in New South Wales to control soil erosion. “Some cultivars are still promoted for...soil stabilisation use.”	P & C (2001) Muyt (2001)	<b>L</b>
8. Reduce biomass?	“...ultimately dominates sparse, overgrazed pastures.” “...dominating ground-flora on lighter soils.” Direct replacement of biomass.	P & C (2001) Muyt (2001)	<b>ML</b>
9. Change fire regime?	Is recorded as a fire hazard in the Eurobodalla Shire in New South Wales.	ESC Factsheet <sup>1</sup>	<b>H</b>
<b>Community Habitat</b>			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC=Hills herb-rich woodland (E); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Victorian Volcanic Plain; VH CLIMATE potential. “...capable of dominating the ground-flora on lighter soils.” Major displacement of grasses/forbs.	Muyt (2001)	<b>MH</b>
(b) medium value EVC	EVC=Grassy dry forest (D); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Goldfields; VH CLIMATE potential “...infestations thin out over time under dense overstorey canopies.” Minor displacement of grasses.	Muyt (2001)	<b>ML</b>
(c) low value EVC	EVC=Heathy woodland (LC); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Greater Grampians; VH CLIMATE potential “...infestations thin out over time under dense overstorey canopies.” Major displacement of grasses/forbs.	Muyt (2001)	<b>ML</b>
11. Impact on structure?	It is “...capable of dominating the ground-flora on lighter, low-nutrient soils,” and thus likely to have a major effect on the lower stratum.	Muyt (2001)	<b>ML</b>
12. Effect on threatened flora?			

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<b>Fauna</b>			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?			
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	Although a weed of disturbed neglected areas it also, “highly invasive in heathlands, woodlands, forests, grasslands and riverine environments.” It is highly persistent, dominant, and largely unpalatable, and therefore may have a minor negative impact on food sources for non-threatened fauna. This may lead to reduced populations	P & C (2001) Muyt (2001)	<b>MH</b>
15. Benefits fauna?	No recorded benefits. “Mature plants are largely unpalatable.”	Muyt (2001)	<b>H</b>
16. Injurious to fauna?	There is no evidence of the plant having toxic properties. It does not produce any spines or burrs.		<b>L</b>
<b>Pest Animal</b>			
17. Food source to pests?	No evidence of a food source for pest animals. “Mature plants are largely unpalatable.”	Muyt (2001)	<b>L</b>
18. Provides harbor?	Clumping nature of plant may provide limited harbour for rodents.		<b>ML</b>
<b>Agriculture</b>			
19. Impact yield?	“In arable areas, cultivation and cropping or the establishment of perennial pasture ...gives good control.” The weed is unlikely to have a significant impact in well-managed paddocks.	P & C (2001)	<b>ML</b>
20. Impact quality?	Is not recorded as a weed of cropping; no evidence of contamination in grass seed crop. Pasture hay is a known vector.	P & C (2001)	<b>ML</b>
21. Affect land value?	In arable areas, its presence controlled with good pasture management practices. “...in non-arable areas, it may be better to utilise the plant as a pasture species.” Little influence on land value.	P & C (2001)	<b>L</b>
22. Change land use?	The weed is not a problem in well managed pastures.	P & C (2001)	<b>L</b>
23. Increase harvest costs?	No evidence of increase in harvest costs		<b>L</b>
24. Disease host/vector?	Not evident.		<b>L</b>

<sup>1</sup> Eurbodalla Shire Council, NSW, information sheet, [www.esc.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Sheets/grasses/G%20African%20lovergrass.htm](http://www.esc.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Sheets/grasses/G%20African%20lovergrass.htm), viewed 11/03/03