

Impact Assessment Record

Scientific name: *Cotoneaster pannosus* Franch.

Common name: velvet / silver-leaf cotoneaster

QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE
Social			
1. Restrict human access?	As large shrub species that can grow to 3m, and is reported to branch profusely at ground level, this species could pose an imposition (Blood 2001; Weber 2003). As the species is not described to form thickets however it is thought to only have high nuisance value.	MH	MH
2. Reduce tourism?	Ornamental species may alter the aesthetics.	ML	L
3. Injurious to people?	The berries are toxic but not fatal (Shepard 2004).	ML	MH
4. Damage to cultural sites?	Ornamental species may alter the aesthetics. Has aggressive root system, may therefore cause structural damage (Bossard, Randell & Hoshovsky 2000).	M	L
Abiotic			
5. Impact flow?	The species can occur in riparian vegetation, there is no evidence however of it occurring in flowing water and obstructing flow.	L	M
6. Impact water quality?	The species can occur in riparian vegetation, there is no evidence however of it occurring in water and affecting water quality.	L	M
7. Increase soil erosion?	Reported to have an aggressive root system (Bossard, Randell & Hoshovsky 2000). Therefore the species is considered to be able to reduce the potential of large scale soil movement.	L	MH
8. Reduce biomass?	The species is reported to displace other vegetation by shading out, however it is also reported to branch profusely near the ground (Weber 2003). Therefore presumably any net loss of vegetation biomass from the lower strata the species would compensate for.	ML	MH
9. Change fire regime?	Unknown.	M	L
Community Habitat			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC= Grassy Woodland (E); CMA= Corangamite; Bioreg= Otway Ranges; VH CLIMATE potential. A large shrub species it is reported to eventually be able to displace the native vegetation from large areas (Weber 2003). Therefore the species is considered capable of cause displacement of some dominant species.	MH	MH
(b) medium value EVC	EVC= Herb-rich Foothill Forest (D); CMA Corangamite; Bioreg Otway Ranges; VH CLIMATE potential. A large shrub species it is reported to eventually be able to displace the native vegetation from large areas (Weber 2003). Therefore the species is considered capable of cause displacement of some dominant species.	MH	MH

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(c) low value EVC	EVC= Riparian Forest (LC); CMA Corangamite; Bioreg Otway Ranges; VH CLIMATE potential. A large shrub species it is reported to eventually be able to displace the native vegetation from large areas (Weber 2003). Therefore the species is considered capable of cause displacement of some dominant species.	MH	MH
11. Impact on structure?	A large shrub species it is reported to eventually be able to displace the native vegetation from large areas (Weber 2003). As a shrub species it would have the most impact on the middle and lower strata, therefore the species is considered capable of impacting on greater than 60% of the flora strata.	MH	MH
12. Effect on threatened flora?	Unknown.	MH	L
Fauna			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?	Unknown.	MH	L
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	Displacement of the native vegetation and alteration of the vegetation structure could impact upon habitat suitability and food availability. Like other berry producing shrubs such as privets the fruit this species could support larger populations of aggressive bird species which could then have flow on impacts on other species (Swarbrick, Timmins & Bullen 1999). The exact extent this species can impact on fauna populations is unknown.	M	L
15. Benefits fauna?	May provide some assistance; food the berries could be eaten by native bird species and shelter as it is a large shrub.	MH	M
16. Injurious to fauna?	There is no evidence of this reported.	L	M
Pest Animal			
17. Food source to pests?	Blackbirds eat the fruit (Rozeffelds <i>et al</i> 1999).	ML	H
18. Provides harbor?	As large shrub species, it has the potential to be a nest site for pest bird species, such as blackbirds.	ML	M
Agriculture			
19. Impact yield?	Only reported as an environmental weed.	L	M
20. Impact quality?	Only reported as an environmental weed.	L	M

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21. Affect land value?	Only reported as an environmental weed.	L	M
22. Change land use?	Only reported as an environmental weed.	L	M
23. Increase harvest costs?	Only reported as an environmental weed.	L	M
24. Disease host/vector?	May be a host of fireblight (Spencer 2002).	M	MH