

Impact Assessment Record

Scientific Name: *Dittrichia viscosa*

Common name: false yellowhead

QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE
<b>Social</b>			
1. Restrict human access?	Shrub that grows between 1 to 1.5 metres tall and 1metre wide (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Likely that the weed would have a low nuisance value.	<b>ML</b>	<b>M</b>
2. Reduce tourism?	In WA it has been found on walking trails. ‘.. infestations of false yellowhead would detract from the aesthetic and natural values of bushland and could reduce its tourism appeal’ (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Likely that some recreational uses affected.	<b>MH</b>	<b>M</b>
3. Injurious to people?	‘It can also cause contact dermatitis in people’. ‘ stems and leaves are covered with glandular hairs which exude a sticky foul-smelling oil [which] can cause allergic reactions’ (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Toxic properties at most times of the year.	<b>MH</b>	<b>M</b>
4. Damage to cultural sites?	Due to the areas in which <i>D. viscosa</i> is known to grow, it is unlikely to have an effect on cultural sites.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Abiotic</b>			
5. Impact flow?	Terrestrial species.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
6. Impact water quality?	Terrestrial species.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
7. Increase soil erosion?	‘.. roots can be quite substantial, even in small plants’ (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Occasionally found in swamp areas but assume low probability of large scale soil movement as shrub grows to 1m wide and doesn’t leave bare soil exposed.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
8. Reduce biomass?	Has a ‘high fresh biomass production’ (Curadi <i>et al</i> 2005). Likely that the biomass would increase.	<b>L</b>	<b>H</b>
9. Change fire regime?	No data available on changes to fire regime. Assume no effect.	<b>L</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>Community Habitat</b>			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC=Plains Grassy Woodland (E), CMA=Glenelg-Hopkins, Bioreg.=Dundas Tablelands, CLIMATE=VH. Grows in swamps, roadsides, wasteplaces. Occurs with other shrubs and ground layers. Allelopathic effects inhibit other plants from germinating but do not kill off existing vegetation (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Minor displacement of some dominant species.	<b>ML</b>	<b>M</b>
(b) medium value EVC	EVC=Riparian Scrub (D), CMA=Glenelg-Hopkins, Bioreg.=Glenelg Plain, CLIMATE=VH. Grows in swamps, roadsides, wasteplaces. Occurs with other shrubs and ground layers. Allelopathic effects inhibit other plants from germinating but do not kill off existing vegetation (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Minor displacement of some dominant species.	<b>ML</b>	<b>M</b>
(c) low value EVC	EVC=Riparian Forest(LC), CMA=West Gippsland, Bioreg.=Highlands- Southern Fall, CLIMATE=VH. Grows in swamps, roadsides, wasteplaces. Occurs with other shrubs and ground layers. Allelopathic effects inhibit other plants from germinating but do not kill off existing vegetation (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Minor displacement of some dominant species.	<b>ML</b>	<b>M</b>

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11. Impact on structure?	Grows in swamps, roadsides, wastepplaces. Occurs with other shrubs and ground layers. Allelopathic effects inhibit other plants from germinating but do not kill off existing vegetation (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Likely to have a minor effect on strata.	<b>ML</b>	<b>M</b>
12. Effect on threatened flora?	No information available.	<b>MH</b>	<b>L</b>
<b>Fauna</b>			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?	No information available.	<b>MH</b>	<b>L</b>
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	Usually occurs in highly disturbed areas such as roadsides, railway lines, fire breaks and walking trails (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Although has allelopathic properties that inhibit the germination of nearby plants, unlikely to cause a reduction in habitat, food or shelter.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
15. Benefits fauna?	No known benefits.	<b>H</b>	<b>M</b>
16. Injurious to fauna?	'Stock that eat the flower heads of <i>D. graveolens</i> can develop enteritis ...thought that <i>D. viscosa</i> would have similar impacts on grazing animals' (CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003). Toxic with the potential to harm fauna species.	<b>MH</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Pest Animal</b>			
17. Food source to pests?	Not a known food source to pests.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
18. Provides harbor?	Not known to provide harbour for pest species.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
<b>Agriculture</b>			
19. Impact yield?	Not a weed of cropping or pastures.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
20. Impact quality?	Not a weed of cropping or pastures.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
21. Affect land value?	Not likely to have an effect on land value.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
22. Change land use?	Weed not likely to cause a change in priority of land use.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
23. Increase harvest costs?	Not a weed of cropping or pastures.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>
24. Disease host/vector?	Not a known host or vector for diseases of agriculture.	<b>L</b>	<b>M</b>

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### References cited:

- CRC for Australian Weed Management 2003, *Weed management guide: False yellowhead (Dittrichia viscosa)*, CRC for Australian Weed Management and the Commonwealth Department of Environment and Heritage, viewed 09 Dec 2005, [http://www.weeds.crc.org.au/documents/wmg\\_false\\_yellowhead.pdf](http://www.weeds.crc.org.au/documents/wmg_false_yellowhead.pdf)
- Curadi, M., Graifenberg, A., Magnani, G. and Giustiniani, L. 2005, 'Growth and element allocation in tissues of *Inula viscosa* in sodic-saline conditions: a candidate for programs of desertification control', *Arid Land Research Management*, vol. 19, no. 3, viewed 09 Dec 2005, <http://taylorandfrancis.metapress.com>

### Revisions

Date	Revised by	Revision
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