

Impact Assessment Record

Scientific Name: *Datura wrightii* Regel

Common name: Hairy Thornapple

QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE
Social			
1. Restrict human access?	Poisonous, symptoms can present after just contact with the plant, also has thorny capsules (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). A definite impediment to individuals.	ML	MH
2. Reduce tourism?	A shrubby herb with large ornate flowers, it would be noticed (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). However no reports of impacts on tourism.	M	M
3. Injurious to people?	All parts of the plant are poisonous, especially seeds and fatalities have occurred after children have eaten seeds of the similar <i>D. stramonium</i> (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Seed capsules are also thorny (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	H	MH
4. Damage to cultural sites?	Has larger root system than other <i>Datura</i> species, however no reports of it causing structural damage. Could alter the aesthetics with its large leaves and ornate flowers.	M	L
Abiotic			
5. Impact flow?	Terrestrial species.	L	M
6. Impact water quality?	Terrestrial species.	L	M
7. Increase soil erosion?	Has a large root system, however it does die back during the winter months (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Therefore soil potentially exposed during times of highest rainfall, high probability of surface erosion.	MH	M
8. Reduce biomass?	Can often create a shrubby herb layer, however as it is a short lived perennial, which dies back annually (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Therefore has little capacity for acting as a carbon sink.	ML	MH
9. Change fire regime?	Impact on fire not reported.	M	L
Community Habitat			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC= Plains Grassy Woodland (E); CMA= Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg= Glenelg Plain; VH CLIMATE potential. Most invasive in highly disturbed habitats, if present would compete for moisture light and nutrients (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	MH
(b) medium value EVC	EVC= Heathy Herb-rich Woodland (D); CMA= Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg= Glenelg Plain; VH CLIMATE potential. Most invasive in highly disturbed habitats, if present would compete for moisture light and nutrients (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	MH

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(c) low value EVC	EVC= Heathy Woodland (LC); CMA= Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg= Glenelg Plain; VH CLIMATE potential. Most invasive in highly disturbed habitats, if present would compete for moisture light and nutrients may cause some minor displacement (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	ML	MH
11. Impact on structure?	Most invasive in highly disturbed habitats, if present would compete for moisture light and nutrients may cause some minor displacement (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	MH
12. Effect on threatened flora?	No reports of this, most invasive in highly disturbed environments (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	MH
Fauna			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?	No evidence documented.	MH	L
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	Poisonous plant (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Minor hazard	ML	MH
15. Benefits fauna?	Only insects seem to be able to use the plant as a food resource and no native species reported using it (Hare & Smith 2005 and Raguso <i>et al</i> 2003).	H	MH
16. Injurious to fauna?	Poisonous (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	H	MH
Pest Animal			
17. Food source to pests?	Bees can use the nectar (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	ML	MH
18. Provides harbour?	Shrubby herb that can cause poisoning symptoms from contact (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Little evidence for potential harbour.	L	MH
Agriculture			
19. Impact yield?	Competes with crops for light, nutrients and moisture. Can also cause stock death especially in pigs and poultry (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001 and Haegi 1976).	MH	M
20. Impact quality?	Seed contamination of sorghum has lead to downgrading or rejection of the crop, and reported to cause birth defects in pigs (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	H	M
21. Affect land value?	No evidence of this reported.	M	L
22. Change land use?	Seed contamination can't easily be removed from sorghum (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Therefore a different crop rotation would need to be put into place to produce a marketable product.	ML	M

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23. Increase harvest costs?	Can interfere with harvesting equipment (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	M	MH
24. Disease host/vector?	Alternate host for <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> , the bacterium cause of Pierce's disease of grapes (Wistrom & Purcell 2005). Alternate host for pests and diseases of crops such as tomatoes, tobacco and potatoes (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	H	MH