Scientific name: Ambrosia tenuifolia

Common Name: lacy ragweed

QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE		
Social					
1. Restrict human access?	Grows between 30 to 60 cm high . Forms dense colonies but unlikely to have impact on human access (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	МН		
2. Reduce tourism?	Most species are 'so ordinary in appearance that they are rarely noticed despite their abundance'. All species noted for allergens (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Some recreational uses affected.	MH	МН		
3. Injurious to people?	'Most important hay-fever producing plant in North America'. All species are noted for their allergens and are a major contributor to hay fever in US, with some places advertising as 'ragweed free' (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Also associated with asthma and dermatogenic properties. Major component in allergies.	MH	МН		
4. Damage to cultural sites?	Not known to cause structural damage. Little or negligible effect on aesthetics.	L	МН		
Abiotic					
5. Impact flow?	Terrestrial species (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	МН		
6. Impact water quality?	Terrestrial species (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	МН		
7. Increase soil erosion?	Plants have 'creeping runner-like roots' (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Aerial growth dies off but unlikely that the species would contribute to large-scale soil erosion.	L	МН		
8. Reduce biomass?	Occurs principally in open areas or waste lands (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Likely that biomass would slightly increase.	L	МН		
9. Change fire regime?	Herbaceous plant (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001) so assume that it would have small or negligible effect on fire risk.	L	МН		
Community Habitat					
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC=Plains Grassy Woodland (E), CMA=Glenelg-Hopkins, Bioreg.=Dundas Tablelands, CLIMATE=VH. Weed doesn't occur in healthy, well-established ecosystems. Occurs mostly in open, disturbed areas where less than 3 strata are present (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Very little displacement of any indigenous species.	L	МН		
(b) medium value EVC	EVC=Coastal Alkaline Scrub (D), CMA=West Gippsland, Bioreg=Gippsland Plain, CLIMATE=H. Weed doesn't occur in healthy, well-established ecosystems. Occurs mostly in open, disturbed areas where less than 3 strata are present (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Very little displacement of any indigenous species.	L	МН		
(c) low value EVC	EVC=Coastal Tussock Grassland (LC), CMA=West Gippsland, Bioreg.=Gippsland Plain, CLIMATE=H. Weed doesn't occur in healthy, well-established ecosystems. Occurs mostly in open, disturbed areas where less than 3 strata are present (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Very little displacement of any indigenous species.	L	МН		
11. Impact on structure?	Weed doesn't occur in healthy, well-established ecosystems. Occurs mostly in open, disturbed areas where less than 3 strata are present (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Usually only affecting one of the strata.	L	МН		

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QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE		
12. Effect on threatened	No information available.	MH	L		
flora?					
Fauna					
13. Effect on threatened	No information available.	MH	L		
fauna?					
14. Effect on non-	Tends to grow in ruderal sites so assume that there is no reduction in habitat/food/shelter for non threatened fauna spp.	L	MH		
threatened fauna?	(Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).				
15. Benefits fauna?	Lacy ragweed not documented to provide benefit to non-threatened fauna species.	Η	MH		
		_			
16. Injurious to fauna?	Not documented to be injurious to fauna species (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	МН		
Pest Animal					
17. Food source to pests?	Not documented to provide a food source to pest species.	L	MH		
10. D					
18. Provides harbor?	Not likely that it provides harbour for pest spp.	L	МН		
Agriculture					
19. Impact yield?	Occurs in cultivated fields, stubble paddocks and degraded pastures but not documented to impact agricultural yield	L	MH		
	(Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).				
20. Impact quality?	Not documented to impact quality of yield (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001).	L	MH		
21. Affect land value?	No information on whether or not the weed affects land value. Weed can be controlled by herbicides (Parsons &	L	М		
	Cuthbertson 2001).				
22. Change land use?	Weed can be controlled by herbicide (Parsons & Cuthbertson 2001). Often found on degraded lands. Assume no	$\mathbf{L}$	MH		
	change in priority of land use.				
23. Increase harvest costs?	No documented evidence to suggest that harvest costs would increase due to the presence of lacy ragweed.	L	MH		
24. Disease host/vector?	None evident.	$\mathbf{L}$	MH		

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References cited:

Parsons, W T & Cuthbertson, E G 2001, Noxious weeds of Australia, 2nd ed., CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.

Scott, R. 2001, 'Ragweed: Ambrosia artemisiifolia', Progressive Farmer, vol. 116, no. 4, p. 80, Birmingham, viewed: 07 Nov 2005, Proquest Database.

Revisions

Date Revised by Revision