



Changes in Pest Risk Assessment for Weeds

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Section 4500. Noxious Weed Species

It has been determined that the following species of plants are noxious weeds within the meaning of Section 5004 of the Food and Agricultural Code:

- Acacia paradoxa (Kangaroo thorn)
- Acaena anserinifolia (biddy biddy)
- Achnatherum brachychaetum (punagrass)
- Acroptilon repens (Russian knapweed)
- Aegilops triuncialis (barb goatgrass)
- Aeschynomene rudis (rough jointvetch)
- Alhagi maurorum (camelthorn)
- Ailanthus altissima (tree of heaven)
- etc...



Is Pest Risk Analysis for You?

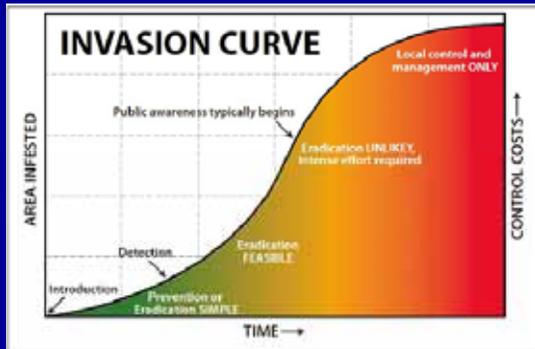


Is Pest Risk Analysis for You?

- Yes



Invasion Process



Spotted Knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa*)

- Invasive in W.U.S. and elsewhere
- Related to other noxious weeds
- Hard to control
- Fast reproduction
- Seed bank
- Some shade tolerance





Spanish mercury
Mercurialis ambigua

Related to dog mercury
Differs in leaf shape,
monoecious
Native to Spain
Often in nursery areas
Spread via mulch



Some INVASIVE woody plants
in California

Brazilian pepper tree [Schinus terebinthifolius](#)
Common fig [Ficus carica](#)
Giant reed [Arundo donax](#)
Mexican fan palm [Washingtonia robusta](#)
Tree-of-heaven [Ailanthus altissimus](#)
Scarlet sesbania [Sesbania punicea](#)
Small-flower tamarisk [Tamarix parviflora](#)
Texas privet [Ligustrum lucidum](#)



Some naturalized woody plants
along CA riparian corridors

American elm	Ulmus americana
Golden rain tree	Koelreuteria bipinnata
Greek laurel	Laurus nobilis
London plane tree	Platanus x hispanica
Mimosa	Albizia julibrissin
Pecan	Carya illinoensis
Silver maple	Acer saccharinum
Tallow tree	Triadica sebifera
Chinese pistache	Pistacia chinensis

Biol. Invasions 2012

Development and validation of a weed screening tool
for the United States

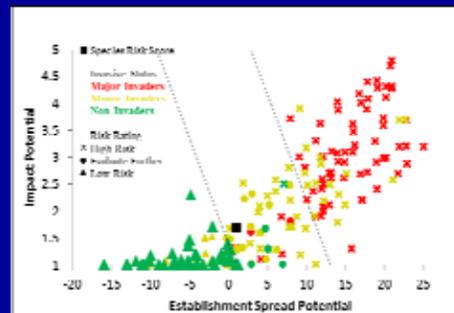
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Abstract The Australian weed risk assessment has been promoted as a simple and effective screening tool that can help prevent the entry of weeds and invasive plants into new areas. On average, the Australian model identifies major-invasers more accurately than it does non-invasers (90% vs. 70% accuracy). While this difference in performance emphasizes protection, the overall accuracy of the model will be determined by its performance with non-invasers because the frequency of invasive

Weed Risk Assessment for *Pistacia chinensis* Bunge
(Anacardiaceae) – Chinese pistache



USDA Weed Risk Assessment for *Pistacia chinensis*





Project Plant Right WRA Model designed for horticultural plants

58 questions concerning:

- Invasion history
- Difficulty of control
- Climate match
- Impacts to native species
- Biology



Mexican feather grass



Berkeley Sedge *Carex divulsa*

- Native to Eurasia
- Introduced as a native species
- Very tough and adapted to disturbance
- Suddenly very popular as a bedding plant



CDFA Draft Pest Risk Assessment

- Simplified model
- Include most predictive information
- Increases transparency
- Includes biological and economic factors
- Allow broader participation
- One approach for all pests
- Incorporates the rating system



Format of Proposed CDFA Pest Risk Assessment

- Initiating Event
- History
- Rating Criteria:
 - Adaptability to CA climate
 - Host range
 - Pest dispersal potential
 - Economic Impact
 - Environmental Impact



Arundo donax



California Plant Pest Rating Proposal Giant reed (*Arundo donax*)

Current Rating: B
Proposed Rating: C

Initiating Event:

There have been queries about growing tracts of giant reed in CA for use in biofuel production.

History & Status:

Background: *Arundo donax* is a tall, erect, perennial cane- or reed-like grass, 2 to 8 meters high. It is one of the largest of the herbaceous grasses. The fleshy, almost bulbous, creeping root stocks form compact masses from which arise tough, fibrous roots that penetrate deeply into the soil. The culms reach a diameter of 1 to 4 cm and commonly branch during the second year of growth. These culms are hollow, with walls 2 to 7 mm thick and divided by partitions at the nodes. The nodes vary in length from 12 to 30 cm.