

Impact Assessment Record

Scientific Name: Disa bracteata

Common name: African weed-orchid

QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE
Social			
1. Restrict human access?	Grows up to 50cm tall (DNRE 2002). Weed would not restrict human access.	L	M
2. Reduce tourism?	As the plant can outcompete other species and is common in grassy paddocks and previously cleared areas (DNRE 2002), it is likely that the weeds would have a minor effect on the aesthetics of the land but would not inhibit activities.	ML	M
3. Injurious to people?	Plant not documented to be injurious or toxic in any way.	L	M
4. Damage to cultural sites?	Not known to occur at cultural sites.	L	M
Abiotic			
5. Impact flow?	Terrestrial species.	L	M
6. Impact water quality?	Terrestrial species.	L	M
7. Increase soil erosion?	The plant has tubers (1-3) and also fleshy side roots (DNRE 2002). Unlikely that the plant would contribute to soil erosion.	L	M
8. Reduce biomass?	'Competes and excludes smaller indigenous flora including orchids, lilies and grasses' (Muyt 2001). Biomass may increase.	L	MH
9. Change fire regime?	Tuberous plant with fleshy stems (DNRE 2002) . Although deciduous, unlikely to change the frequency or intensity of fires.	L	M
Community Habitat			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC=Herb-rich Foothill Forest (V); CMA=Glenelg-Hopkins; Bioreg=Victorian Volcanic Plain; CLIMATE potential=VH. 'Competes and excludes smaller indigenous flora including orchids, lilies and grasses' (Muyt 2001). Major displacement of some dominant species in the lower strata.	MH	MH
(b) medium value EVC	EVC=Herb-rich Foothill Forest (D); CMA=Glenelg-Hopkins; Bioreg=Victorian Volcanic Plain; CLIMATE potential=VH. 'Competes and excludes smaller indigenous flora including orchids, lilies and grasses' (Muyt 2001). Major displacement of some dominant species in the lower strata.	MH	MH
(c) low value EVC	EVC=Lowland Forest (LC); CMA=Glenelg-Hopkins; Bioreg=Victorian Volcanic Plain; CLIMATE potential=VH. 'Competes and excludes smaller indigenous flora including orchids, lilies and grasses' (Muyt 2001). Major displacement of some dominant species in the lower strata.	MH	MH
11. Impact on structure?	'Competes and excludes smaller indigenous flora including orchids, lilies and grasses' (Muyt 2001). Likely to have a major effect on the lower strata.	MH	MH

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12. Effect on threatened flora?	In South Australia ' <i>Monadenia bracteata</i> has already been found in the close vicinity of nationally declared rare and endangered species such as <i>Psoralea parva</i> (small scurf-pea) and <i>Drosera praefolia</i> (Tepper's sundew) (Prescott 1997). In Victoria, <i>D. bracteata</i> has been found in several locations including the Victorian Volcanic Plains, where threatened flora such as basalt greenhood and tough scurf pea exist (DPI 2003).	H	M
Fauna			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?	This species is not documented as posing an additional risk to threatened fauna	MH	L
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	Not documented to have an effect on fauna spp.	L	M
15. Benefits fauna?	Not known to benefit fauna.	L	M
16. Injurious to fauna?	Not known to be injurious to fauna.	L	M
Pest Animal			
17. Food source to pests?	Plant not known to be a food source to pests.	L	M
18. Provides harbor?	Plant not known to provide harbour for pets species.	L	M
Agriculture			
19. Impact yield?	Not a weed of agriculture.	L	M
20. Impact quality?	Not a weed of agriculture.	L	M
21. Affect land value?	Weed not known to affect land value.	L	M
22. Change land use?	Weed not documented to cause a change in priority of land use.	L	M
23. Increase harvest costs?	Not a weed of agriculture.	L	M
24. Disease host/vector?	Not a known host or vector for diseases of agriculture.	L	M

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References cited:

- Department of Natural Resources and Environment 2002, *Landcare notes: South African weed orchid: identification*, Department of Primary Industries, Victoria, viewed 06 Dec 2005, [http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/DPI/nreninf.nsf/9e58661e880ba9e44a256c640023eb2e/1c5c119d4b2c71d9ca256e720024ed4b/\\$FILE/LC0273.pdf](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/DPI/nreninf.nsf/9e58661e880ba9e44a256c640023eb2e/1c5c119d4b2c71d9ca256e720024ed4b/$FILE/LC0273.pdf)
- Department of Primary Industries 2003, *Biodiversity action planning – Strategic overview for the Victorian Volcanic Plain bioregion*, Victorian Resources Online, Department of Primary Industries, viewed 10 Jan 2006, http://vro.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/bap_overviews_vvp
- Muyt, A. 2001, *Bush invaders of south-east Australia*, R.G. & F. J Richardson, Melbourne.
- Prescott, A 1997, *An ecologists' view of Monadenia bracteata in South Australia*, NOSSA – Orchid Conservation, viewed 12 Dec 2005, <http://www.anos.org.au/groups/southaustralia/nossa-a.htm>

Revisions

Date	Revised by	Revision
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