

Weed Alerts 2023

and other updates

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Species Assessments Cal-IPC, CNPS OC, Calflora



R. Veach

Cape ricegrass

Stipa capensis (Poaceae)

- Syn's: *Stipella capensis*, *Stipelella capensis*
- Native to southern Europe, Eurasia, South Africa
- First reported 1995 nr. Palm Springs (Riverside Co.)
 - Spreading quickly, now dominant, dense monocultures
- Confirmed in Borrego Springs 2023
 - Managed by volunteers only
- Confirmed at Pt. Mugu NAS 2016, 2022
- Cal-IPC Moderate - Alert (CDFA Unlisted)
- Likely facilitates fire spread

California distribution data from Calflora (including iNaturalist and California Consortium of Herbaria data)



Cape ricegrass

Stipa capensis

- Annual to 1 meter, usu. less
- The only annual *Stipa* in CA
- Spiral awn, 5-10 cm, bent 2X
- Spring flowering
- Seed easily transported on clothing, boots, animal fur
- Habitats incl. flat ground, hillsides, streamside, sand, soil, or cracks in boulders



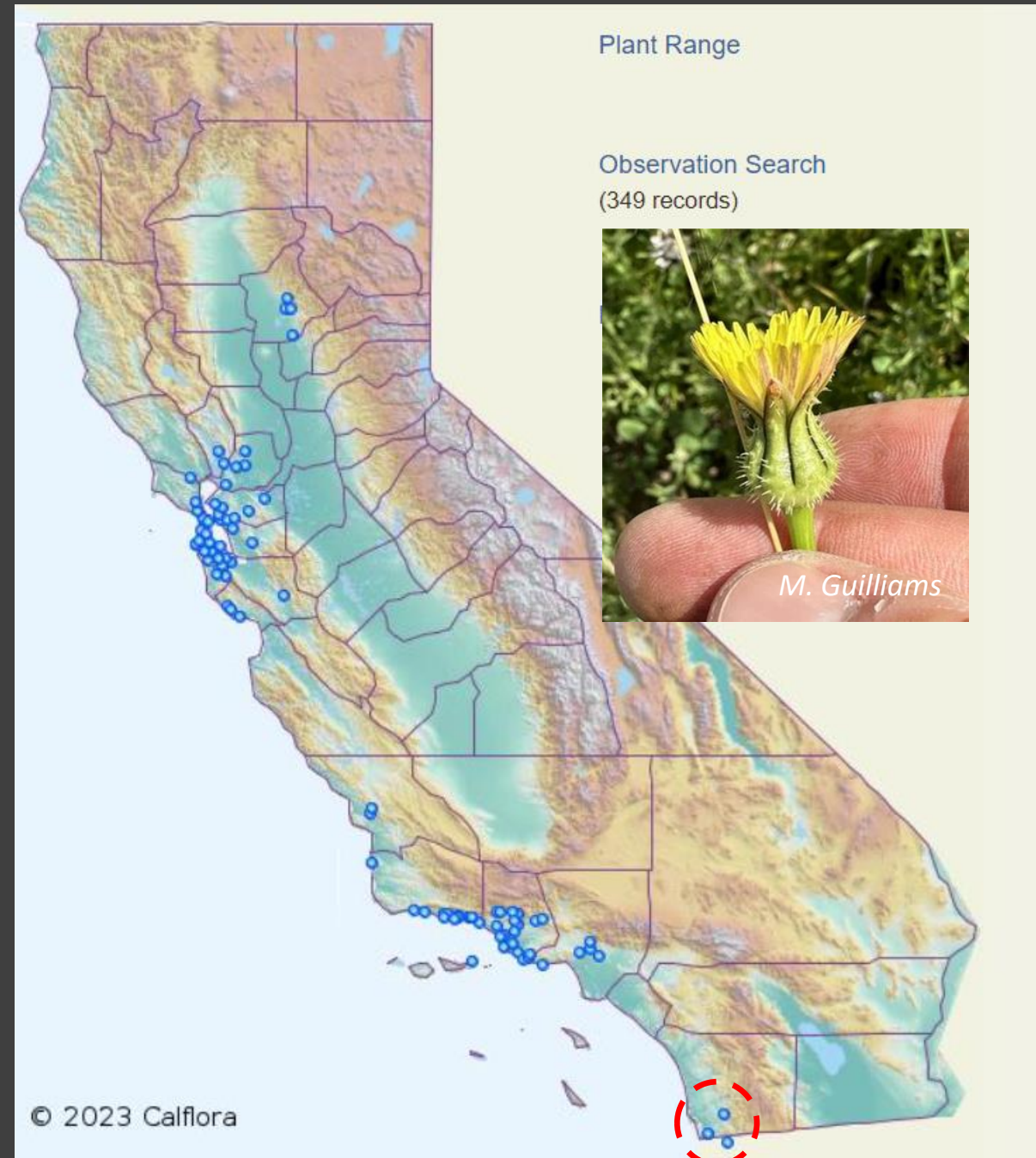
Prickly goldenfleece

Urospermum picroides

(Asteraceae)

- Native to Europe and Eurasia
- Naturalized in Australia, Southern Africa, S. America
- First NorCal report 1915, UC Berkeley campus
- First SoCal report 1965, Santa Barbara area
- Confirmed in No. Baja CA 2019, San Diego 2022
- Confirmed Phoenix, AZ 2018
- Expanding in Butte County.
- 15 CA counties
- Formerly only urban edges, recently expanding to wildlands (rapid evolution? Higher seed pressure?)
- Cal-IPC Red Alert status 2008 (CDFA not listed)

California distribution data from Calflora (including iNaturalist and California Consortium of Herbaria data)



Prickly goldenfleece *Urospermum picroides* (Asteraceae)

- Annual to perennial(?) herb, milky sap
- Usu. bristly leaves, peduncles and phyllaries
- Flower heads on thick peduncles
- Confused with common sowthistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*)
- Single row of phyllaries and a swollen receptacle (1)
- Fruits have a unique hollow 'tail' at the tip (2)





iNaturalist

1,002

OBSERVATIONS

1

SPECIES

85

IDENTIFIERS

299

OBSERVERS



2020 California Urospermum Challenge

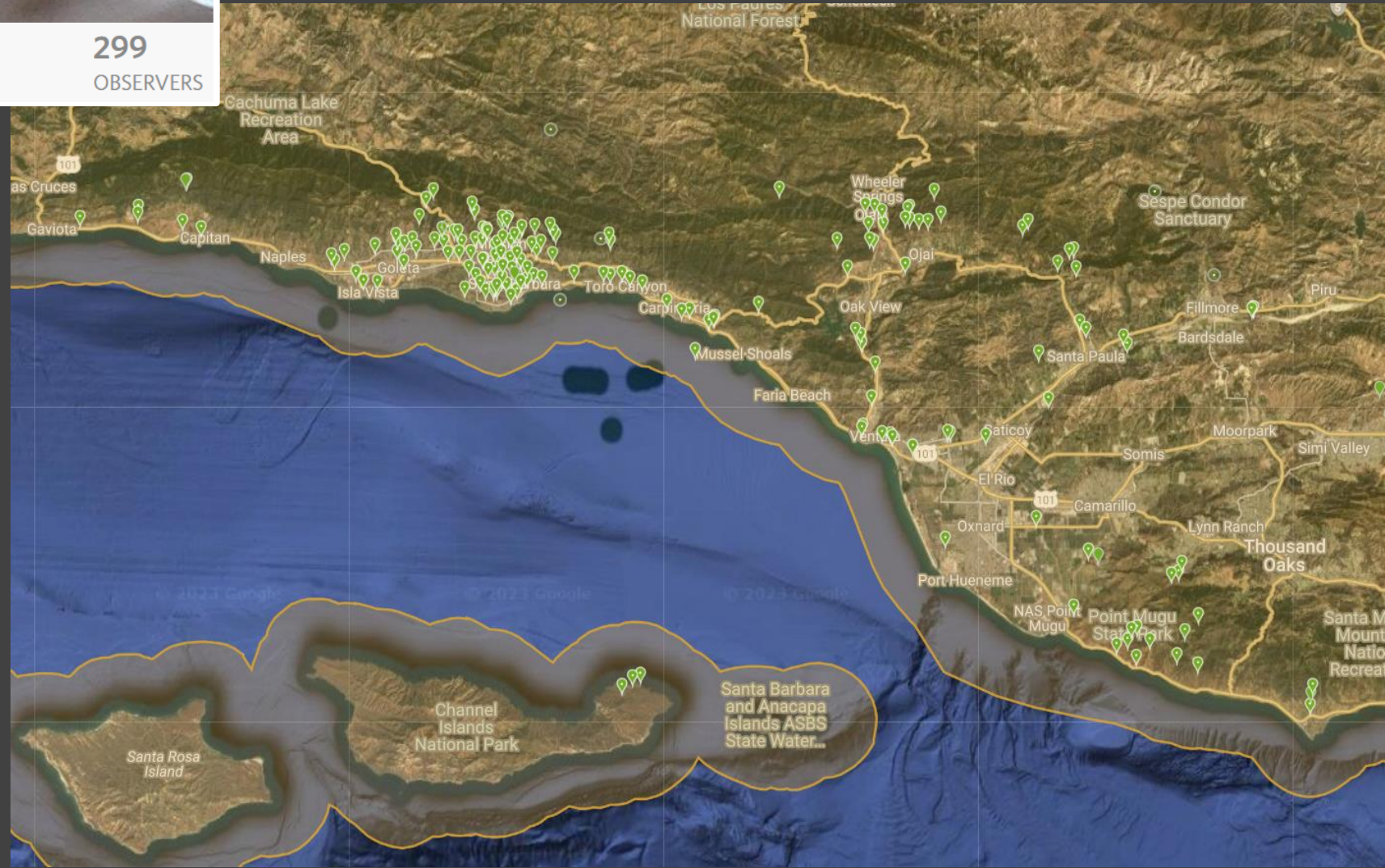
Documentation

Prizes !!!

Observations:

2019: 51

Today: 1002



Linear-leaved Australian fireweed *Senecio linearifolius* (Asteraceae)

- Native to Southeastern Australia
- Subshrub, long flowering-fruiting season
- First reported and collected CA in late 1985 (San Juan Capistrano, Orange Co.)
- Found in San Diego 2013
- Reported 2020 in Santa Clara County (K. Hickman)
- Recorded in New Zealand
- Cal-IPC WATCH species (CDFA 4500 list)
- Riparian, seasonal wetlands, drainages, flood control channels, mesic areas

California distribution data from Calflora (including iNaturalist and California Consortium of Herbaria data)



Linear-leaved Australian fireweed *Senecio linearifolius*

- Perennial herb or woody subshrub 1-2m high; well-branched from base
- Long flowering-fruiting season
- Usu. 8 ray flowers
- Can produce thousands of seeds
- Parachute-like hairs (pappi) adjacent to seed allow wind dispersal.
- Forms dense thickets.
- Alkaloids are potentially dangerous if ingested by grazing animals



Photos: R. Vanderhoff

Update on
Osteospermum calendulaceum
(2022 Weed Alert)





Osteospermum calendulaceum

Refresher

- Annual Asteraceae native to Cape Region, So. Africa
- Naturalized in parts of Australia and Hawaii
- Found spring of 2022 in mainland U.S. (Laguna Beach, Orange Co., CA) in goat-grazed habitat
- 1,000+ plants; 100,000+ in first germination event
- EDRR as a collaboration of NGOs, land managers, and government agencies
- CDFA “A” rated, undergoing Cal-IPC Assessment



Osteospermum calendulaceum

New Knowledge:

- Year-round flowering and fruiting
- Adapted to dryland habitats
- Good control with pre-post emergent selective herbicide (Milestone)

Still to Learn:

- Germination triggers
- Relationship with goats used in FMZ's
- California phenotype unique?



White water fire *Bergia capensis* (Elatinaceae)

- Native to central Africa and SE Asia
- Naturalized in Spain, Portugal, Greece; reported from Central America
- Found in Butte County rice field in September 2023; reported to Co. Ag. Comm.
- First North American record
- Given “Q” (pending evaluation) status by CDFA
- Reported as weed in rice fields in India, Egypt, Greece, Spain, Portugal

California distribution data from Calflora (including iNaturalist and California Consortium of Herbaria data)



White water fire

Bergia capensis

(Elatinaceae)

- Fleshy-stemmed annual
- A “wetland hydrophyte”
- Glabrous, toothed leaves, stems
- Grows to <50cm
- Stems pinkish; first decumbent, then erect
- Two types of roots (incl. both stout soil roots and plumose water roots with chloroplasts)
- Roots at lower nodes
- Flowers nearly sessile & in clusters at leaf axils
- Fruit is a capsule w/ many tiny (0.5mm), oblong seeds
- Seed are honey-combed (may float)



Garlic mustard

Alliaria petiolata

(Brassicaceae)

- 2nd population in state found in Trinity County in 2022 by USFS botanists
- native to Eurasia and North Africa
- Widely naturalized in northern and central U.S. in open, riverine, and wooded habitats
- Can form dense patches; allelopathic; forms soil seed bank
- Listed as noxious weed or prohibited invasive species in 14 states + now California
- Found in California (San Bernardino Mts.) in remote riparian area in 2020 by California Botanic Garden
- Now rated “A” by CDFA and “MODERATE-ALERT” in Cal-IPC inventory

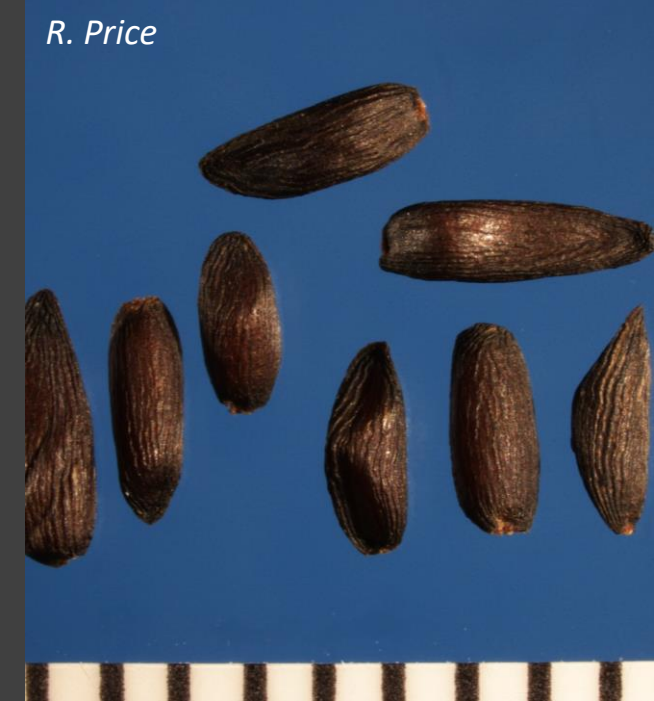
California distribution data from Calflora (including iNaturalist and California Consortium of Herbaria data)



Garlic mustard

Alliaria petiolata

- Crushed foliage has garlic odor
- Leaves toothed, basal rosette of kidney-shaped leaves
- Stem-leaves triangular-ovate
- Flowers white and four-parted
- Fruits narrow and stiffly spreading
- Seeds blackish-brown, longitudinally ridged



Garlic mustard

Alliaria petiolata

- Trinity County: USFS just awarded a grant to work on permissions with private landowners for surveys and control through a local RCD contract!
- San Bernardino County: Joseph Esparza (San Bernardino NF) is working with partners on tracking and controlling garlic mustard; as yet more funding is needed to create and implement a plan. CDFA funding is expected.
- Check out Joseph's presentation online from Session 2 - Managing New Weeds session!



Obi-Wan Conobea

Leucospora multifida

(Plantaginaceae)

- Also known as narrowleaf paleseed
- Native to Midwest
- Recently reported naturalized in Taiwan and s. China
- First well-documented record in California found by Don Burk (Shasta Co. CNPS Chapter) in Tehama Co., September 2023
- Two earlier California herbarium records undated with no location
- Extends 25 miles along Thomes Creek to the Sac. River
- Other digital records listed for California may be mis-identified
- Occurs along gravel sand bars and in moist fields

California distribution data from Calflora (including iNaturalist and California Consortium of Herbaria data)



Obi-Wan Conobea

Leucospora multifida

- Summer annual, <20 cm tall
- Plants are sticky: highly branched with dense, glandular hairs
- Bright green, with stems turning reddish with age
- Leaves opposite in pairs or whorls, dissected and slightly toothed
- Small (<0.5cm) flowers, lavender to white
- Seeds small (0.3mm) and many



<https://shasta-cnps.org/obi-wan-conobea-invades-california/>

2023 Species Added to Cal-IPC Inventory

Scientific name	Common name	Cal-IPC Rating	CDFA Rating	Weed Alert?
<i>Alliaria petiolara</i>	Garlic mustard	MOD-ALERT	A	2021
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Chinaberry	WATCH		
<i>Pennisetum ciliare</i>	Buffelgrass	WATCH	D	

Eight other species were reviewed for their risk of invasiveness in 2022, but with available info did not score highly enough to be included in the inventory.

They were: *Adonis aestivalis*, *Caesalpinia spinosa*, *Chasmanthe bicolor*, *Euphorbia hypericifolia*, *Lathyrus nissolia*, *Pancratium maritimum*, *Senecio angustifolius*, and *Senna artemisioides*.

Plus revisions of profile descriptions are in progress!

Cal-IPC Species in 2023 Review

Scientific name	Common name	CDFA Rating	Weed Alert?
<i>Apium graveolens</i>	Wild celery		
<i>Asparagus setaceus</i>	Common asparagus fern	A	
<i>Cuscuta japonica</i>	Japanese dodder		
<i>Galenia pubescens</i>	Coastal Galenia		2018
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Ornamental jewelweed		2022
<i>Lathyrus tingitanus</i>	Tangier pea		
<i>Nasella trichotoma</i>	Serrated tussock grass		
<i>Osteospermum calendulaceum</i>	Stinking Roger	A	2022
<i>Phytolacca heterotepala</i>	Mexican pokeweed	A	2022
<i>Phytolacca icosandra</i>	Button pokeweed	Q	2022
<i>Pulicaria paludosa</i>	Spanish false fleabane		

NEW AND DISTURBING SPECIES TO REPORT?

Contact us!!!

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Ron Vanderhoff invasives@occnps.org

And soon, your next State CDFA Botanist

Send close-ups, whole-plant and habitat photos

Map on Calflora or iNaturalist

Contact your County Ag. Commissioner and your local WMA!

Submit specimen to your local herbarium and Ag. Commissioner