

Weed Sheet

Declared weed sheet : Water Dropwort



Government of South Australia
South Australian Murray-Darling Basin
Natural Resources Management Board

Water Dropwort

(*Oenanthe pimpinelloides*)

Water dropwort is a poisonous perennial herb which prefers moist areas. It can easily displace pasture species and is spread by seed via water, in soil and as a contaminant in hay.



Water Dropwort



What is it?

Water dropwort is a poisonous perennial herb which prefers moist areas. It can easily displace pasture species and is spread by seed via water, in soil and as a contaminant in hay.

What does it look like?

Growth habit: Water dropwort originates from Europe. It is an erect perennial herb 1.5m high with leaf rosettes like wild geranium.

Flowers: Flower stems are almost leafless with white flowers appearing in late spring to summer. Stems remain erect over summer, holding seeds in an umbrella-shaped cluster.

Root: Rounded 20mm diameter tubers form along the roots. Growth is from tubers and seed.

Seeds: Seeds are 3mm long, boat-shaped, ribbed, with 2 hooks at one end.

Why is it a problem?

Water dropwort appears to replace pasture species and competes with native species during summer. Livestock do not usually graze on it and it has been reported to be poisonous.

Affected landuses: Grazing and crop/pasture land uses are affected.

Where is it found?

Water dropwort is currently known to occur in the Adelaide Hills. It is confined to the Meadows creek and occurs in water-logged pasture and occasionally on roadsides.



How is it spread?

The primary means of spread is by seed. Many vectors are capable of spreading the seed of Water dropwort. These include wind, water, stock, hay and machinery. Tubers may also be a means of spread via water along watercourses and as a contaminant of hay.

How do we control it?

Physical control:

Prevent spread to clean properties by ensuring purchases of hay/fodder, stock and machinery are free of weed material. Preventing seed set and limiting stock and machinery access to infested areas will limit the pest plant movement and eventually exhaust seed reserves in soil.

Chemical:

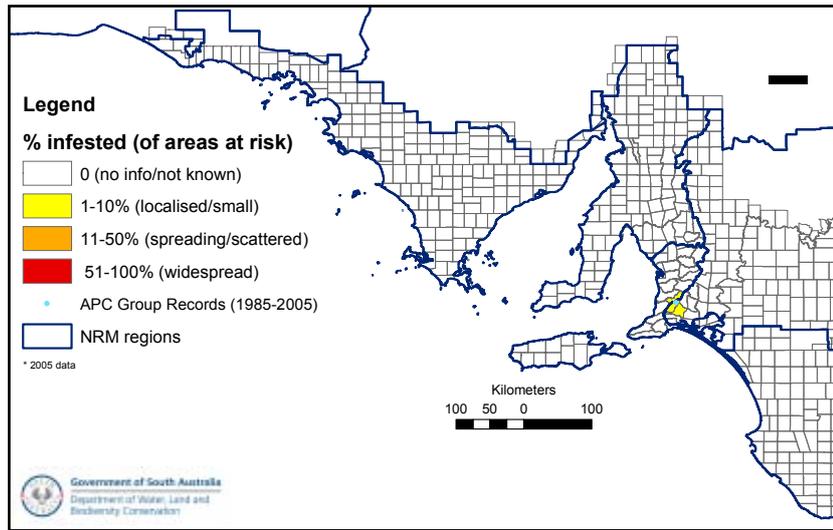
At present there are no registered chemicals to control Water dropwort in South Australia. However a research paper has indicated that products containing Metsulfuron methyl, 2-4D, Bromoxynil and Glyphosate may be effective at controlling the various growth stages of Water Dropwort.

****N.B **** these chemicals could be harmful to useful pasture species and are unsuitable for use around watercourses. Always read and follow the product label.

For more advice on recognising and controlling Water dropwort, contact your local Natural Resources Management Board Officer.

References:

<http://www.publish.csiro.au/nid/72/paper/EA9950483>



Infestation Level of WATER DROPWORT (*Oenanthe pimpinelloides*) by hundreds in the State of South Australia*

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
			Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue			
			Orange								
	Blue	Blue						Blue	Blue	Blue	Blue
Grey	Grey								Grey	Grey	Grey

Yearly Weed Life Cycle of WATER DROPWORT (*Oenanthe pimpinelloides*) in the State of South Australia

Blue	Germination	Orange	Active growth
Light Blue	Flowering	Grey	Seed set

Contact us



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Legislation

Water dropwort is declared under the Natural Resource Management (NRM) Act 2004.

Declared Plant Class: 1F
Declared Plant Category: 3

The following provisions of the NRM Act 2004 are to be applied to the whole of the State:

175(2) - relates to the movement of plants on public roads within a control area.

177(1)(2) - relates to the sale of plants, or produce or goods carrying plants.

182(2)(3) - relates to the obligation of an owner of land to control and keep controlled the plant and take any measures prescribed by the relevant authority.

The following section applies to whole of the State excluding specific sections in the Hundred of Kuitpo and the area of land within the township of Meadows.

180(1)(2)(3) - relates to the notification of a plants presence to a relevant NRM authority.



Natural Heritage Trust

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An Australian Government Initiative

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