

# 2014 Regional Snapshot

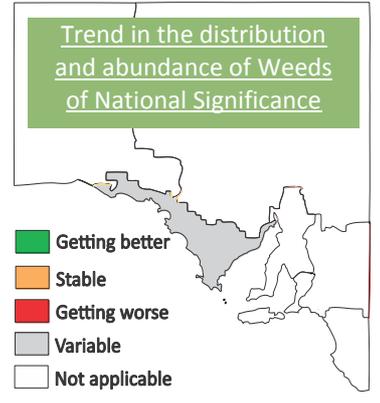
## What are the distribution and abundance of weeds?

Weeds compete with our native and agricultural plants. They contribute to land degradation, reduce farm and forest productivity, contaminate crops and grains, increase bushfire fuel and can be toxic to people, livestock or native animals. In 2004, weeds were estimated to cost Australian farmers about \$4 billion every year.

In 2007, about 90 per cent of agriculture businesses in the Eyre Peninsula NRM region implemented weed control.

There are a number of locally important weeds established in the Eyre Peninsula NRM region, including 7 Weeds of National Significance. Weeds of National Significance are nationally recognised as the most serious threats to biodiversity and/or the economy.

This information should be read alongside reports on the [management of weeds and pest animals](#).



State target

Limit the establishment of pests and diseases and reduce the impact of existing pests

Trend (2008-12)

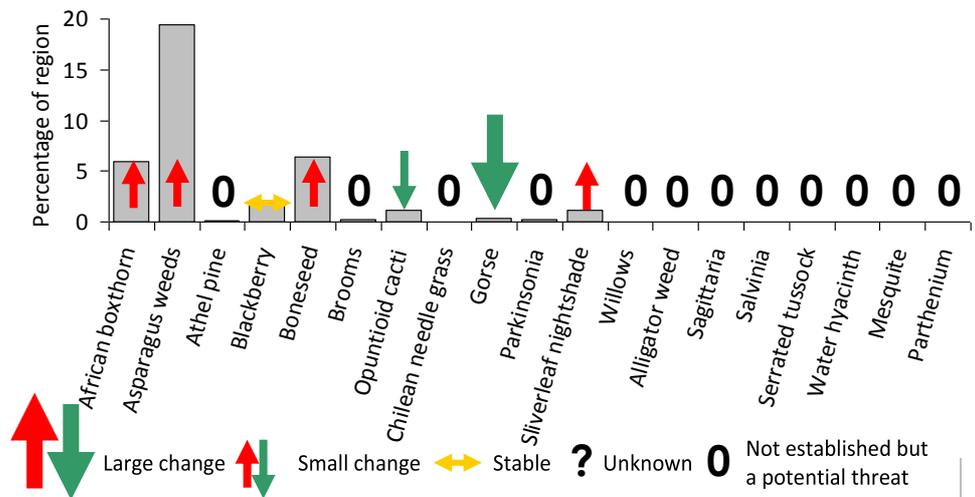
Variable

The trends for Weeds of National Significance vary between species: 4 species are increasing, 2 are decreasing and 1 is stable

Trends in the distribution and abundance of Weeds of National Significance in the Eyre Peninsula NRM region vary depending on species (map above).

The distribution and abundance of gorse has been heavily reduced by control efforts. Opuntoid cacti have also decreased. Silverleaf nightshade, African boxthorn, asparagus weeds and boneseed have increased (arrows on graph).

There are 12 Weeds of National Significance that have not established in the NRM region but are considered a potential threat.



Where we are at (2012)

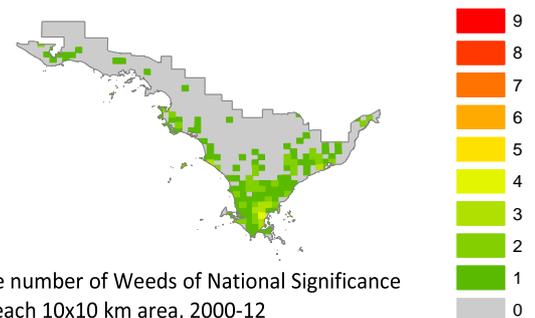
Poor

Managing weeds continues to be a complex challenge

Based on records from 2000-12, a number of asparagus weeds have been recorded in about 20 per cent of the Eyre Peninsula NRM region (graph above, map on right).

Weeds of National Significance are generally most common in the areas with higher rainfall and greater disturbance, such as southern areas of Eyre Peninsula (map to right). Some weeds have only been recorded in small areas because they are restricted by climatic and soil conditions.

The areas where Weeds of National Significance have been recorded (map to right) do not reflect the impacts of recent control efforts.



Reliability of information



Poor, there are insufficient data on the abundance and trends of weeds

Further information: [Technical information for this report](#), [Weeds in South Australia](#)



