

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 South East NRM region reported weed problems.

There are a number of locally important weeds established in the South East NRM region, including 10 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](#).



Trend in the distribution and abundance of Weeds of National Significance



State target

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

Trend (2008-12)

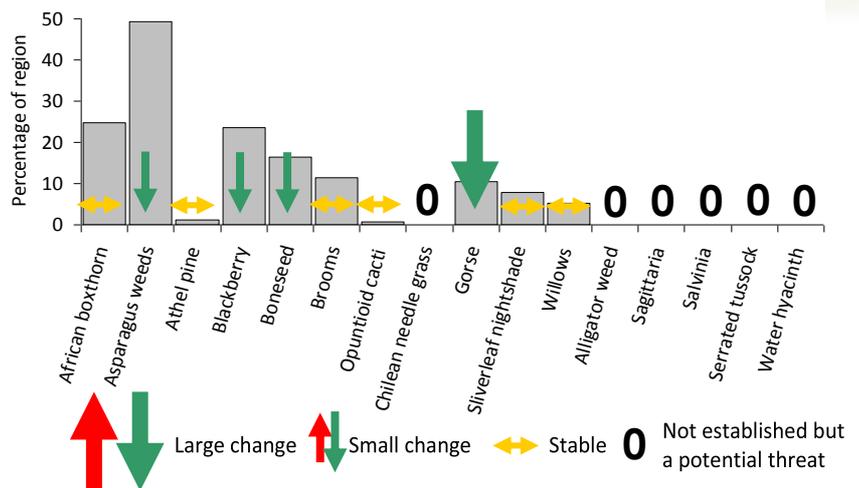
Getting Better

The trends for Weeds of National Significance vary between species: 4 are decreasing and 6 are stable

Trends in the distribution and abundance of Weeds of National Significance in the South East NRM region are improving overall (map above and graph to right)

The distribution and abundance of a number of asparagus weeds, blackberry, boneseed and gorse have decreased (arrows on graph).

There are 6 Weeds of National Significance that are not established in the NRM region but are considered a potential threat.



Where we are at (2012)

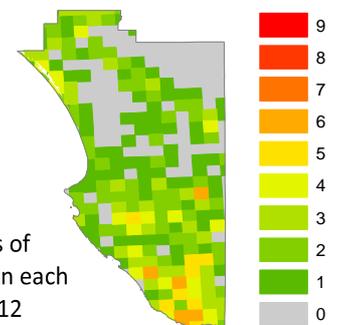
Poor

Managing weeds continues to be a complex challenge

Based on records from 2000-12, there were 6 Weeds of National Significance recorded in over 10 per cent of the South East NRM region. Asparagus weeds were the most widespread, occurring in 50 per cent of the NRM region (graph above, map on right).

Weeds of National Significance are generally most common in the areas with higher rainfall and greater disturbance, in particular in and around Mount Gambier (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.



The number of Weeds of National Significance in each 10x10 km area, 2000-12

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](#)