

Weed Sheet

Declared weed sheet : Calomba Daisy



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

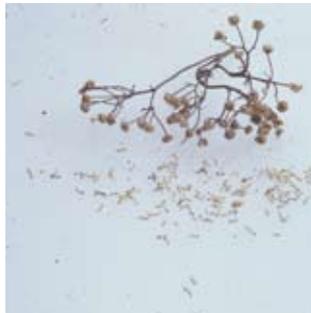
Calomba Daisy

(*Oncosiphon suffruticosum*)

Calomba daisy is an annual, aromatic, unpalatable pest plant that competes with more valuable pastures for water, light and nutrients.



Calomba Daisy



What is it?

Calomba daisy was introduced from South Africa in contaminated fodder. Calomba daisy is unpalatable to stock and also reduces the growth of pasture species by chemicals that it releases into the soil. If eaten by stock, Calomba daisy will taint meat and milk products. Dense stands can also reduce the yield of cereal crops.

What does it look like?

Growth: An erect strongly chamomile-scented annual herb to 60cm high. Seedlings are tiny and require gaps in pasture or bare ground to establish. Plants over-winter as rosettes, then flower stems develop in August.

Leaves: Leaves are grey-green in colour, 2-4cm long and divided into thin lobes, which give a feather like appearance. The first leaves form a small rosette, from which an erect, leafy flowering stem grows to about 60cm tall.

Flowers: The flowers are minute, mustard yellow, and arranged at the end of the stems in broad flat groups of ball-shaped heads. Each flower forms a seed about 2mm long, resembling fine chaff which germinate in autumn. Flowers appear in October through to November.

Fruit: Plants die in early summer leaving dry woody stems carrying the seeds. The seeds of Calomba daisy are partially adapted for dispersal by wind but tend to remain in the flower head until it breaks up. The seeds are up to 2mm long, ribbed and minutely crowned with white scales to 1mm.

Root: A slender taproot with fibrous branching laterals.

Why is it a problem?

Calomba daisy is unpalatable to stock and inhibits the growth of pasture species through the production of allelopathic chemicals. If eaten by stock, Calomba daisy will taint meat and milk products. Dense stands can also reduce the yield of cereal crops.

Affected land uses : Crop/Pasture and Grazing land uses are affected by the presence of this pest plant.

Where is it found?

As a weed it commonly occurs in disturbed soils or cultivated fields, degraded pastures, roadside and waste places. In South Australia, infestations are centred in the Northern Adelaide Plains and upper Yorke Peninsula region; other isolated infestations exist in the Mallee region.

How is it spread?

Spread occurs when the flower head is broken off and moved by wind, or attachment to animals or vehicles. Seeds may also be carried as a contaminant in fodder and produce.

How do we control it?

Prevention:

Prevent entry to your property by ensuring purchases of seed, fodder and livestock are free of Calomba daisy seed.

Physical control:

Cultivation and late sowing of winter growing crops offers some control on arable lands. In semi arid pastures, however, maintaining pasture by light grazing and removing small patches by hoeing.

Chemical control:

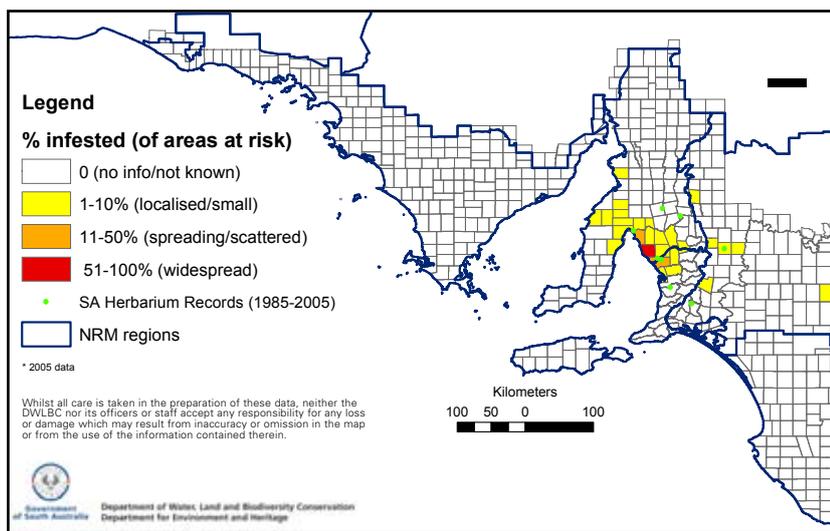
Calomba daisy will only dominate where competition is removed. Spot spraying of isolated patches gives effective control. Currently only two chemicals are registered for Calomba Daisy control; these are Glyphosate and Metsulfuron-methyl.

Spot spraying or spraying actively growing plants with Glyphosate before the flowering stems appear. In cereal crops, seedling Calomba daisy can be controlled with Metsulfuron-methyl.

Biological control:

There are currently no agents being investigated to aid in the control of Calomba daisy.

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



Infestation Level of CALOMBA DAISY (*Oncosiphon suffruticosum*) by hundreds in the State of South Australia*

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		Active growth									
		Flowering	Flowering								

Yearly Weed Life Cycle of CALOMBA DAISY (*Oncosiphon suffruticosum*) in the State of South Australia

Germination	Active growth
Flowering	Seed set

References:

Parsons, W.T., Cuthbertson, E.G. (2001) Noxious Weeds of Australia, 2nd Ed. CSIRO Publishing. www.publish.csiro.au

www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/biodiversity/pests/distribution.html

www.plantzafrika.com/frames/medmonfram.htm

<http://florabase.calm.wa.gov.au/browse/flora?f=345&level=s&id=20661&PHPSESSID=c281dc7cfe3880f79f4ed6c>



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Legislation

Calomba daisy is a declared pest plant under the Natural Resource Management (NRM) Act 2004.

Declared Plant Class: 2D
Declared Plant Category: 2

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, 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.

185(1) - relates to the ability of the NRM authority to recover the costs of control on roadsides from adjoining landholders.

The following provisions of the NRM Act 2004 are to be applied in council areas specified within the 'South Australian Government Gazette': these include the District Councils of Elliston and LeHunte.

180(1) - relates to the notification of the plant's presence to a relevant NRM authority.

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