Impact Assessment Record

Scientific Name: *Pelargonium alchemiloides* L. Common name: garden geranium

QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE
Social			
1. Restrict human access?	Decumbent herb…usually 20cm tall (van der Walt, 1977). Will not restrict human access	**L**	**MH**
2. Reduce tourism?	This small, herbaceous species (van der Walt, 1977) is very unlikely to be obvious to the average visitor.	**L**	**M**
3. Injurious to people?	Silky leaves, no injurious properties noted in van der Walt (1977).	**L**	**MH**
4. Damage to cultural sites?	This small, herbaceous species (van der Walt, 1977) would have a negligible effect on aesthetics of cultural sites.	**L**	**M**
Abiotic			
5. Impact flow?	Habitats indicate that this is a terrestrial species (Kokwaro, 1971).	**L**	**MH**
6. Impact water quality?	Habitats indicate that this is a terrestrial species (Kokwaro, 1971).	**L**	**MH**
7. Increase soil erosion?	This plant can dominate understorey species and when it becomes dormant (CRC Weed Management, 2003) it could leave large bare patches of soil that has a moderate probability of large scale soil movement.	**L**	**M**
8. Reduce biomass?	The ability of this small plant (van der Walt, 1977) to dominate understorey species (CRC Weed Management, 2003)will decrease biomass as the smaller plant replaces larger ones.	**MH**	**MH**
9. Change fire regime?	The ability of this herbaceous plant (van der Walt, 1977) to dominate understorey species (CRC Weed Management, 2003) means that it has the potential to replace high fuel loads, such as grasses, with low fuel loads of herbaceous species. This could have a moderate effect on fire frequency and intensity.	**MH**	**M**
Community Habitat			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC=Ridged Plains Mallee (E), CMA=Mallee, Bioreg.=Lowan Mallee, CLIMATE=VH. "Dominance of understorey species in the peppermint woodland" (CRC Weed Management, 2003). Major displacement of some dominant species within a layer.	**MH**	**M**
(b) medium value EVC	EVC=Semi-arid Woodland (D), CMA=Mallee, Bioreg.=Lowan Mallee, CLIMATE=VH. "Dominance of understorey species in the peppermint woodland" (CRC Weed Management, 2003). Major displacement of some dominant species within a layer.	**MH**	**M**
(c) low value EVC	EVC=Woorinen Sands Mallee (LC), CMA=Mallee, Bioreg.=Lowan Mallee, CLIMATE=VH. "Dominance of understorey species in the peppermint woodland" (CRC Weed Management, 2003). Major displacement of some dominant species within a layer.	**MH**	**M**
11. Impact on structure?	"Dominance of understorey species in the peppermint woodland" (CRC Weed Management, 2003). This plant has the potential for a major effect on the groundcover layer.	**MH**	**M**

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QUESTION	COMMENTS	RATING	CONFIDENCE
12. Effect on threatened flora?	No information found.	**MH**	**L**
Fauna			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?	No information found.	**MH**	**L**
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	The ability of this plant to dominate understorey species (CRC Weed Management, 2003) means that it has the potential to reduce the food sources for fauna, leading locally to reduced numbers.	**MH**	**M**
15. Benefits fauna?	No information found.	**M**	**L**
16. Injurious to fauna?	Silky leaves, no injurious properties noted in van der Walt (1977).	**L**	**MH**
Pest Animal			
17. Food source to pests?	No information found.	**M**	**L**
18. Provides harbor?	This small, herbaceous species (van der Walt, 1977) is very unlikely to provide harbour for pest animals.	**L**	**MH**
Agriculture			
19. Impact yield?	"Not currently seen as a threat to agriculture, [but] it could have an impact on agricultural production…Could degrade pastoral areas." Its ability to dominate understorey species (CRC Weed Management, 2003) and occurrence in grassland (Kokwaro, 1971) suggests that this plant has the potential to reduce the carrying capacity of pasture by more than 5%.	**MH**	**MH**
20. Impact quality?	This small, herbaceous species (van der Walt, 1977) is very unlikely to reduce the quality of produce.	**L**	**MH**
21. Affect land value?	This small, herbaceous species (van der Walt, 1977) is very unlikely to impact on land value.	**L**	**MH**
22. Change land use?	If infestations degraded pastoral areas enough to make them unprofitable (see Q 19), a change to cropping may be necessary.	**MH**	**MH**
23. Increase harvest costs?	Not predicted to be a weed of cropping (CRC Weed Management, 2003).	**L**	**M**
24. Disease host/vector?	Not noted as a disease host/vector in CRC Weed Management (2003).	**L**	**M**

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References cited:

CRC Weed Management *Weed Management Guide- garden geranium* – Pelargonium alchemilloides, CRC Weed Management, Australia.
Kokwaro JO 1971 'The family Geraniaceae in Africa,' *Webbia* v. 25, p. 623-669.
van der Walt JJA 1977, *Pelargoniums of Southern Africa*, Purnell, Cape Town, Johannesburg, London.

Revisions

Date	Revised by	Revision