

QUESTION	COMMENTS	REFERENCE	RANKING
Social			
1. Restrict human access?	A prostrate creeping perennial. Would not restrict human access.	P & C (2001)	L
2. Reduce tourism?	A prostrate perennial, the plant growth habit would not restrict recreational activities. However, “the sharp spines of the heads are a great annoyance to bare-footed children [and adults?] and fruit pickers.” As it commonly occurs in, “irrigated recreation areas and caravan parks,” it would affect some recreational activities.	P & C (2001)	MH
3. Injurious to people?	“The sharp spines of the heads are a great annoyance to bare-footed children...[and] it is claimed also to cause hay fever, asthma and dermatitis in some people.”	P & C (2001)	MH
4. Damage to cultural sites?	Khaki weed forms, “a dense ground cover [on]...bare or disturbed areas.” It has a deep, woody taproot only. Not likely to affect the structure of a cultural site but because of the dense ground cover, would create a moderate negative visual effect.	P & C (2001)	ML
Abiotic			
5. Impact flow?	Terrestrial species.	P & C (2001)	L
6. Impact water quality?	Terrestrial species.	P & C (2001)	L
7. Increase soil erosion?	“Roots form at stem nodes producing new plants and a dense ground cover.” The plant would not increase soil erosion.	P & C (2001)	L
8. Reduce biomass?	“Colonises bare or disturbed areas...[and] establishes occasionally in native pastures where it out-competes most other species.” Biomass may increase.	P & C (2001)	L
9. Change fire regime?	“Aerial growth dies off by late autumn.” Not likely to increase fuel load greatly. Small or negligible change to fire risk.	P & C (2001)	L
Community Habitat			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC=Plains grassland (E); CMA=North Central; Bioreg=Victorian Riverina; VH CLIMATE potential. “Establishes occasionally in native pastures where it out-competes most other species.” Would have a major impact on ground flora.	P & C (2001)	MH
(b) medium value EVC	EVC=Plains sedgy woodland (D); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Wimmera; VH CLIMATE potential. “Establishes occasionally in native pastures where it out-competes most other species.” Prefers open situations. Overstorey cover may limit impact. Would have a minor impact on grasses/forbs.	P & C (2001)	ML
(c) low value EVC	EVC=Heathy woodland (E); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Wimmera; VH CLIMATE potential. Impact as in 10 (b) above.	P & C (2001)	ML
11. Impact on structure?	“Establishes occasionally in native pastures where it out-competes most other species.” Would have a major impact on ground flora.	P & C (2001)	ML
12. Effect on threatened flora?			

Scientific Name: *Alternanthera pungens*

Common name: Khaki weed

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Fauna			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?			
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	“It occasionally invades native pastures on sandy soils but usually does not persist.” Where it does establish it, “out-competes most other species.” Animals rarely eat the plant. Would reduce food source for native fauna.	P & C (2001)	ML
15. Benefits fauna?	“Animals do not eat the plant; the heads cause mechanical damage to the feet and mouths of stock.” No benefits.	P & C (2001)	H
16. Injurious to fauna?	“The heads cause mechanical damage to the feet and mouths of stock.” “Khaki weed is believed to be poisonous to animals and to cause a skin ailment in cattle.”	P & C (2001)	H
Pest Animal			
17. Food source to pests?	Not known as a food source to pest animals. Stock does not readily graze the plant.	P & C (2001)	L
18. Provides harbor?	A prostrate plant, though with dense ground cover. It may provide limited harbor for rodents.	P & C (2001)	ML
Agriculture			
19. Impact yield?	Not known to affect agricultural yields greatly. “In New South Wales...it competes with both irrigated and dryland lucerne.” No similar impacts in Victoria.	P & C (2001)	ML
20. Impact quality?	It, “contributes to vegetable fault in wool and...in New South Wales...its burrs contaminate lucerne hay.”	P & C (2001)	MH
21. Affect land value?	Not a serious weed of agriculture in Victoria; not likely to affect land value.	P & C (2001)	L
22. Change land use?	No		L
23. Increase harvest costs?	Does not affect harvest activities; not a weed of cropping in Victoria.	P & C (2001)	L
24. Disease host/vector?	None evident.		L