

QUESTION	COMMENTS	REFERENCE	RANKING
Social			
1. Restrict human access?	An erect annual, biennial or perennial herb to 75 cm high. Its presence would have minimal impact on human access.	P & C (2001)	L
2. Reduce tourism?	Commonly occurring on roadsides, disturbed areas and overgrazed pastures. In flower, the plant would be noticeable and would have a minor negative impact on the visual aesthetic.	P & C (2001)	ML
3. Injurious to people?	“Onion weed allegedly causes dermatitis in some people.” Minor physiological effect	P & C (2001)	ML
4. Damage to cultural sites?	During flowering, dense patches would create a major effect to aesthetics.		MH
Abiotic			
5. Impact flow?	Terrestrial species.	P & C (2001)	L
6. Impact water quality?	Terrestrial species.	P & C (2001)	L
7. Increase soil erosion?	“Onion weed grows so thickly that other vegetation is reduced. [Although] the flower stem dies back, most leaves remain alive through summer.” It would not contribute to soil erosion.	P & C (2001)	L
8. Reduce biomass?	“...an invasive weed occupying roadsides, disturbed areas and overgrazed pastures.” Weed replaces biomass	P & C (2001)	ML
9. Change fire regime?	No great change in biomass; not likely to change fire risk.		L
Community Habitat			
10. Impact on composition (a) high value EVC	EVC=Plains grassy woodland (E); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Victorian Volcanic Plain; VH CLIMATE potential. “Onion weed grows so thickly that other vegetation, particularly grasses, is reduced.” Major effect on annual grasses.	P & C (2001)	MH
(b) medium value EVC	EVC=Herb-rich heathy woodland (D); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Dundas Tablelands; VH CLIMATE potential. “Onion weed grows so thickly that other vegetation, particularly grasses, is reduced.” Does not establish when having to compete for moisture with other perennials. Minor effect on species within the lower stratum.	P & C (2001)	ML
(c) low value EVC	EVC=Heathy woodland (D); CMA=Glenelg Hopkins; Bioreg=Dundas Tablelands; VH CLIMATE potential. Impact as in 10(b) above.	P & C (2001)	ML
11. Impact on structure?	“Onion weed grows so thickly that other vegetation, particularly grasses, is reduced. In dense patches, lowered soil nitrogen prevents other plants establishing and competing with the weed.” Likely to have a minor effect on the lower strata. Occurs on roadsides, disturbed areas and overgrazed pasture..	P & C (2001)	ML
12. Effect on threatened flora?			

Scientific Name: *Asphodelus fistulosus*

Common name: Onion weed

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Fauna			
13. Effect on threatened fauna?			
14. Effect on non-threatened fauna?	“Farmers’ organisations claim that the original carrying capacity of much grazing land in the drier parts of southern Australia has been reduced by 75% because of onion weed.” The plant, ”...is not eaten by stock.” Likely to have at least a minor impact on the source of food for native fauna.	P & C (2001)	ML
15. Benefits fauna?	No benefits.		H
16. Injurious to fauna?	No	P & C (2001)	L
Pest Animal			
17. Food source to pests?	Not known as a food source to pests.		L
18. Provides harbor?	Does not provide harbor.		L
Agriculture			
19. Impact yield?	“Onion weed grows so thickly that other vegetation, particularly grasses, is reduced, and because it is not eaten by stock, carrying capacity is also reduced. Farmers’ organisations claim that the original carrying capacity of much grazing land in the drier parts of southern Australia has been reduced by 75% because of onion weed.” Likely to have a serious impact on yield.	P & C (2001)	MH
20. Impact quality?	Not a weed of cropping.		L
21. Affect land value?	Its impact on yield and the cost associated with control may reduce the value of land.		M
22. Change land use?	The plant can be readily controlled by cultivation and sowing lucerne or a cereal crop undersown with lucerne. If sown to lucerne, it is recommended that the area is not grazed in the first year. This makes the area temporarily unavailable, which would lead to some economic loss.	P & C (2001)	M
23. Increase harvest costs?	No a weed of cropping		L
24. Disease host/vector?	None evident		L