

THE BUSHWEED DATABASE OF ENVIRONMENTAL WEEDS IN AUSTRALIA

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The BUSHWEED database has been developed both to provide an overview of the environmental weeds of Australia and as a possible model for a global database of such weeds.

The database covers the scientific and common names of about 700 weeds, as well as the family, legislative status (if any), a brief outline of its biology, distribution by regions in each state and territory, distribution by natural and seminatural ecosystems invaded, and outlines of the known managerial, biological, physical and chemical methods of control appropriate to each weed in such systems, with references.

The database has been developed using the First Choice word processing packages, selected for its increased database capacity. It is being continuously updated and expanded as more information becomes available, and is available in hard copy as illustrated.

THE GLOBAL WORKING GROUP ON WEEDS OF CONSERVATION AREAS

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The Working Group on Weeds of Conservation Areas is an informal group of people involved with all aspects of the biology, ecology and control of the weeds that invade natural and seminatural ecosystems reserved for their conservation value, such as National Parks, throughout the world.

Formed during 1992, the group has fifty members in most continents. Its main objective is to put members in touch with each other through the address list, to circulate papers and other information that may have broad interest among members, and to encourage meetings as adjuncts to national, regional or world weed conferences. It may also work towards the development of a global database of the weeds of conservation areas.