








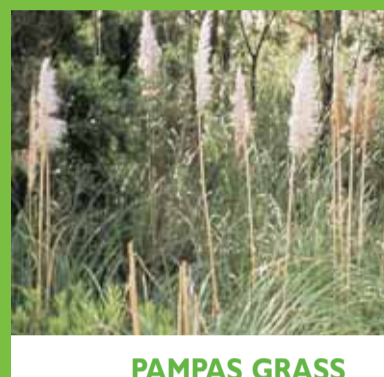




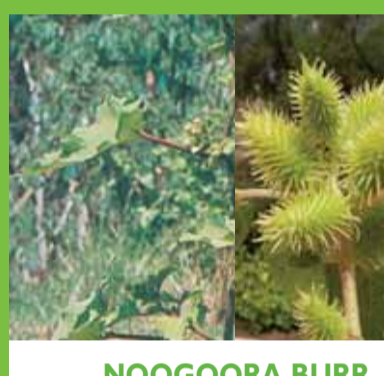






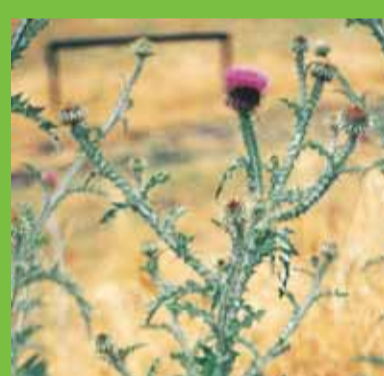






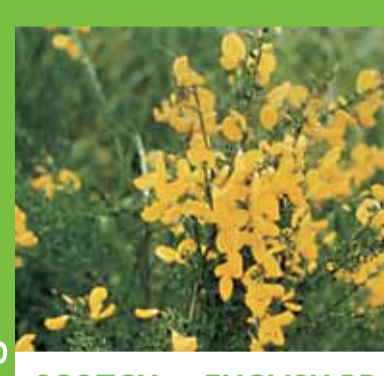













noxious weeds

NORTHERN INLAND WEEDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NIWAC)

<p>alligator weed</p>  <p>ALLIGATOR WEED (<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>)</p> <p>This aquatic weed, introduced from South America forms dense floating mats with masses of interwoven hollow stems. It is found in waterways and swampy areas. It can also live on land and spread 15 metres onto waterways. The green leaves are elongated and opposite on the stems. The solitary white flowers are papery to touch. This plant is readily spread by slow moving water, floods, in hay and turf, mud on earth moving machinery and vehicles, or by livestock. Dense infestations can hinder river navigation, fishing and recreation also reduces the water quality for domestic and irrigation usage.</p>	<p>water hyacinth</p>  <p>WATER HYACINTH (<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>)</p> <p>A free-floating aquatic plant growing in deep or shallow water and in mud. Spreads vegetatively by fragmentation. One plant in one season can spread to occupy about 300 hectares. Easily recognised by its bright shiny pale green fleshy leaves on swollen bladder like stems. Attractive mauve flowers appear in summer and the seeds may lay dormant for many years before germinating. The plant threatens water use generally, infestations may make water unfit for domestic and stock use, choke irrigation systems, block drainage lines, hinder navigation and seriously interfere with wildlife.</p>	<p>water lettuce</p>  <p>WATER LETTUCE (<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>)</p> <p>A free floating, perennial, aquatic plant. The plant spreads by producing underwater stems (stolons) which form daughter plants. Spread is very rapid. The leaves are a distinctive pale yellow green, resembling fleshy lettuce leaves. Seeds are only produced when plants are crowded. Dense swards can deoxygenate water resulting in fish kills, and damage to the ecosystem.</p>	<p>salvinia</p>  <p>SALVINIA (<i>Salvinia molesta</i>)</p> <p>An aquatic plant declared noxious throughout New South Wales. A free floating fern with slender stems, floating leaves and a root like structure. Spreads vegetatively by fragmentation and grows rapidly in warm conditions when it can double in size in 2-3 days. Occurs on still and slowly flowing water, can smother large areas of water causing problems to other plants and aquatic animals, blocking irrigation equipment and pumping apparatus and reducing the use of waterways for recreation and transport.</p>	<p>lippia</p>  <p>LIPPIA (<i>Phyla canescens</i>)</p> <p>A fast-growing and hardy weed forming a 'carpet' over the entire ground. It secretes toxic substances, leading to degradation of soil and water and displacement of native plant species. It is a perennial, broadleaf herb, with grey-green leaves 10 to 20 mm long. Each tiny leaf has 2 or 3 serrations on each side. Lippia produces numerous small, round, white or lilac flowers. The plant has a taproot up to 2 metres deep and in river or creek bank situations will actually cause large sections to break away and fall into the waterway.</p>	<p>gorse</p>  <p>GORSE (<i>Ulex europaeus</i> L.)</p> <p>A prickly, perennial, evergreen shrub which will grow to a height and diameter in excess of 3 metres. All stems and leaves end in a sharp spine, making plants impenetrable to animals and unpalatable to all stock except goats. Flowers are bright yellow, pea-like, approximately 20mm long and are borne all over the plant. Flowering occurs in two distinct seasons, spring and autumn. Gorse spread is mainly by seeds, however fragmentation of the root system can cause regeneration.</p>
<p>giant parramatta grass</p>  <p>GIANT PARRAMATTA GRASS (<i>Sporobolus indicus</i> var. <i>major</i>)</p> <p>An aggressive and competitive tussocky grass. It can grow up to 2 metres but it is normally 60 to 150 centimetres tall. Characteristics are coarse leaves and folded leafsheaths at the base of the plant. A high level of silicon in the leaves has an abrasive effect on the teeth of cattle. Produces enormous number of seeds which can be spread by vehicles, machinery and stock.</p>	<p>johnson grass</p>  <p>JOHNSON GRASS (<i>Sorghum halepense</i>)</p> <p>A summer growing perennial sorghum up to 2 metres tall. Has long leaves with prominent white midrib and an open seedhead. Seeds are usually dark brown or black when mature and unlike forage sorghum, has rhizomes (root segments). Johnson Grass like all sorghums can be toxic to livestock especially during periods of new growth. It is a safety hazard along roadsides restricting vision and a pollen contaminant of sorghum and other crops.</p>	<p>longstyle feather grass</p>  <p>LONGSTYLE FEATHER GRASS (<i>Pennisetum villosum</i>)</p> <p>An erect, dense, tussock forming grass 30 to 70 centimetres high. Spreads readily along roadsides and into wetter areas. Young growth may be eaten by stock but older leaves are long and serrated and unpalatable. This permits free uninterrupted seeding. Plants spread by rhizomes as well as from seed.</p>	<p>pampas grass</p>  <p>PAMPAS GRASS (<i>Cortaderia</i> spp.)</p> <p>A long lived perennial tussock (2 metres high) with flowerheads 4 metres high. Plants are either female or hermaphrodite (bisexual). Female plants can produce 100,000 seeds per flowerhead per season if pollinated. Seeds spread by wind. Plant can also be grown from pieces of rhizomes (root segments). Pampas Grass is in widespread use as a garden ornamental in residential areas. Produces large quantities of flammable material and dense infestations increases the bush fire hazard.</p>	<p>serrated tussock</p>  <p>SERRATED TUSSOCK (<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>)</p> <p>A perennial tussock forming grass to 50 centimetres high and 25 centimetres diameter at the base. Only eaten by stock if no other feed available. Animals are unable to digest the plant in most stages of growth. Can dramatically reduce carrying capacity of country.</p>	<p>spiny burr grass</p>  <p>SPINY BURR GRASS (<i>Cenchrus incertus</i> & <i>Cenchrus longispinus</i>)</p> <p>Erect and spreading annual grass to 60 centimetres high. Forms a spike like panicle 3 to 8 centimetres long consisting of up to 40 spiny burrs. Grows most readily in disturbed sandy soil. It is a noxious weed because of its obnoxious burrs which are difficult to extract from skin and clothes. Can cause lameness in dogs and sheep.</p>
<p>african lovegrass</p>  <p>AFRICAN LOVEGRASS (<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>)</p> <p>A vigorous, densely tufted, perennial grass 30 to 120 centimetres high. Generally considered to be unpalatable. Spread is by seeds which are readily moved by stock and machinery. Seeds from January to March.</p>	<p>chilean needle grass</p>  <p>CHILEAN NEEDLE GRASS (<i>Nassella neesiana</i>, formerly <i>Stipa neesiana</i>)</p> <p>This plants success is mainly due to a large long-lived reserve of viable seed in the seed soil bank. This seed bank enables it to re-establish even the adult plant has been killed. It is unpalatable to stock if in flower and can penetrate sheep's wool to the skin and also their eyes. It can produce flowers in its first season. This weed can be recognised by the two distinctive bends in the stem. Can be spread by animals, humans and machinery. Seeds mainly in autumn and spring.</p>	<p>noogoora burr</p>  <p>NOOGOORA BURR (<i>Xanthium</i> spp.)</p> <p>A robust summer growing annual plant usually found on creeksides, river flats or moist flood prone areas. The plant can invade pastures and cultivation, attains a height of 2 metres with spreading branches to cover an area of 2 metres. The alternate broad lobed leaves are on coarse ribbed branches. The fruit ripens into a spiny burr 2 centimetres long densely beset with hooked spines at end. The species is toxic to livestock and can cause dermatitis and mechanical injury to both humans and livestock.</p>	<p>bathurst burr</p>  <p>BATHURST BURR (<i>Xanthium</i> spp.)</p> <p>A robust summer growing annual plant usually found on creeksides, riverflats or moist flood prone areas. The plant can invade pastures and cultivation, attains a height of 1 metre. Bathurst Burrs' hooked spines make it well adaptable for dispersal and can also be a major source of vegetable fault in wool therefore reducing its value.</p>	<p>galvanised burr</p>  <p>GALVANISED BURR (<i>Sclerolobus birchii</i>)</p> <p>This is a perennial woody shrub-like plant growing to a metre high. It is recognised by its typical galvanised or greyish appearance which is caused by dense white fine hairs on its woody stems. Seeds are contained in the 5 spined burrs which form in the leaf axils. The leaves are broad with hairs on both surfaces. The plant is dispersed through stock movement, as the burrs cling to the animals it is broken down by being trod on, and, this helps to infest other areas.</p>	<p>st john's wort</p>  <p>ST JOHN'S WORT (<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>)</p> <p>An erect perennial herb or small shrub with a creeping rootstock. Leaves when viewed against light show characteristic oil glands. Flowers in spring, early summer bearing bright yellow flowers. The dead brown flower stalks are clearly visible at other times during the year. Toxins in the leaves can cause photosensitivity, hypotension (heat and cold stress) and infertility in grazing animals. The plant readily invades unimproved overgrazed pastures.</p>
<p>mother-of-millions</p>  <p>MOTHER-OF-MILLIONS (<i>Bryophyllum delagoense</i>)</p> <p>An introduced, smooth, succulent, perennial herb. A garden escapee. It is quite toxic to cattle and probably to humans, the main reason for the declaration. Stems are pink to greyish. Yellow to salmon flowers are formed as drooping clusters at the top of the stalks. Usually found around disused homesteads and along road verges.</p>	<p>nodding thistle</p>  <p>NODDING THISTLE (<i>Carduus nutans</i>)</p> <p>A invasive weed of pastures, particularly in areas with rainfall in excess of 500 millimetres. It is an erect annual or biennial thistle growing to 1.6 metres but commonly 80 to 120 centimetres. Flower heads tend to droop over and nod in the breeze. Flower colour ranges from pink to red or mauve.</p>	<p>scotch thistle</p>  <p>SCOTCH THISTLE (<i>Onopordum acanthium</i>)</p> <p>An erect annual or biennial thistle to 2 metres high, with whitish, woolly stems and leaves and purple flowers. Spines are not as numerous and coarse on the leaves and stems as they are on Ilyrian Thistle. The outer bracts on the flowerheads are yellowish in colour and are reflexed whereas with Ilyrian Thistle heads, bracts are broader, reddish purple and are all reflexed.</p>	<p>illyrian thistle</p>  <p>ILLYRIAN THISTLE (<i>Onopordum illyricum</i>)</p> <p>An erect annual, or biennial to 2 metres high with erect, woolly, spined wings on stems and branches. Leaves are woolly and appear whitish with coarse spines. Flowers are purple. A pappus is attached to seeds allowing wind dispersal.</p>	<p>parthenium weed</p>  <p>PARTHENIUM WEED (<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>)</p> <p>This plant grows up to 1.5 metres tall. It has creamy-white flowers that grow in clusters, also deeply lobed pale green leaves which branch alternately on stems and are covered with soft, fine hair. It can cause respiratory problems and severe dermatitis in humans and animals. Livestock carrying capacity is reduced. It is found in neglected areas around yards and buildings, roadsides, also in over stocked areas. It is spread by seed through hay and grain, contaminated vehicles and machinery.</p>	<p>blue heliotrope</p>  <p>BLUE HELIOTROPE (<i>Heliotropium amplexicaule</i>)</p> <p>This perennial plant has a deep taproot which allows it to die in winter, then flower in spring-summer. This plant grows up to 15 centimetres high and its leaves are alternate, dull green soft and tapered at both ends while its flowers which grow in dense clusters are purple or lilac with yellow centres and are less than 5 millimetres in diameter. Fresh stems and leaves emit an ill-smelling aroma when crushed. It is often found along roadsides, degraded and overstocked pastures and reserves. It is dangerous to livestock due to the presence of toxic alkaloids.</p>
<p>hemlock</p>  <p>HEMLOCK (<i>Conium maculatum</i>)</p> <p>Found in humid areas of the coast and tablelands, particularly in moist fertile soils. It is usually found in areas providing little competition. An erect annual herb to 3 metres but normally 1-2 metres. It has numerous white flowers in distinctive umbrellas like heads at the ends of the stems. Hemlock is toxic to humans and stock.</p>	<p>green cestrum</p>  <p>GREEN CESTRUM (<i>Cestrum parqui</i>)</p> <p>A straggling perennial shrub 2 to 3 metres tall. May have one or more green brittle stems. Leaves are shiny green to 10 centimetres long, which when crushed have a foul smell. Flowers, from late spring to autumn, are yellow trumpet shaped clusters (may have greenish tinge) approximately 2.5 centimetres long at the end of the branches. Have an unpleasant smell during the day but quite sweet in the evening. The fruit, arranged in clusters are shiny black and egg shaped berries. All parts of the plant are poisonous to livestock particularly cattle and can be toxic to humans.</p>	<p>dodder</p>  <p>DODDER (<i>Cuscuta</i> spp.)</p> <p>Dodders are annual, leafless flowering plants living as parasites on host plants attached by suckers. They are reliant on the host plant for nutrient, therefore reducing the yield of the crop. The stems are threadlike, usually bright yellow. The flowers are bell shaped in clusters along the stems and are mainly cream-white in appearance. Dodder is spread by the harvesting with the host crop, flooding and can pass through animals in viable conditions.</p>	<p>silverleaf nightshade</p>  <p>SILVERLEAF NIGHTSHADE (<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i>)</p> <p>Silverleaf Nightshade is an erect, deep rooted perennial plant with annual summer top-growth. New shoots are produced in spring from the crowns of vertical and lateral roots and root segments. Flowering begins in November and December and may continue until March. Berries may form in December and usually ripen four to eight weeks after seedset. Each plant can produce up to sixty berries each containing about 75 seeds. Cultivation encourages the spread of Silverleaf Nightshade by breaking up the root system and stimulating germination.</p>	<p>scotch or english broom</p>  <p>SCOTCH or ENGLISH BROOM (<i>Cytisus scoparius</i>)</p> <p>An erect shrub to 3 metres, but more commonly to 2 metres high. It is an invasive weed of disturbed soils, roadsides and neglected areas. It tolerates a wide range of soils but not alkaline soils. Flowers are singular and yellow. During this period of flowering the leaves are inconspicuous making the plant look as though there are no leaves at all. This shrub also has compressed black seed pods. Once established it tends to dominate, smothering other species.</p>	<p>blackberry</p>  <p>BLACKBERRY (<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> (agg.) spp.)</p> <p>A perennial plant with up to 6 metre long hook spined canes capable of forming new plants where the cane tips contact the ground. The crowns of the plant form new canes each year and 2 year old canes bear white and pink flowers at the ends which develop into black succulent berries. The plant is widely spread by birds and animals and causes problems in forests, creeks, riversbanks and roadsides. Stock carrying capacity is severely reduced because of the rambling nature of the plant.</p>
<p>sweet briar</p>  <p>SWEET BRIAR (<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i>)</p> <p>An erect, perennial shrub. Sweet Briar can grow up to 2 metres high, but is commonly only 1.5 metres to 2 metres high. It has downward facing prickles measuring up to 2 centimetres long. Sweet Briar prefers well drained areas of moderate fertility, with little competition and light grazing. Infestations are often heaviest in hilly and rocky country, around trees, on creek banks and along fence lines. Sweet Briar can reduce carrying capacity and harbour vermin, especially where it occurs in clumps or patches.</p>	<p>african boxthorn</p>  <p>AFRICAN BOXTHORN (<i>Lycium ferocissimum</i>)</p> <p>A tall, erect, thorny perennial shrub, often impenetrable thickets. Branches are stout, sometimes drooping and end in a strong sharp spine. Flowers cream streaked with lilac. Berries are small, bright orange, succulent and globular. The bushes harbour vermin such as rabbits and the berries are host for fruit fly and other insects.</p>	<p>mesquite</p>  <p>MESQUITE (<i>Prosopis</i> spp.)</p> <p>A woody, deciduous, perennial shrub growing to 3 metres tall reproducing by seed and suckers. It is multi-stemmed, leaves are feathery in appearance with 2 robust spines at the base. Flowers are small greenish yellow on short stalks. The fruit has 10-20 seeds per pod which is approx 12 to 20 centimetres long and one centimetre wide. It produces bunches of seedpods during summer.</p>	<p>common pest pear</p>  <p>COMMON PEST PEAR (<i>Opuntia stricta</i>)</p> <p>A cactus with flat, smooth leaves armed with both large (35mm) thorns and clusters of tiny yellow thorns. While the thorns can obviously cause instant pain, the small thorns are a source of continuing annoyance to animals or humans who come in contact with the plant. Plants have yellow flowers in spring and the plants usually grow around 600 millimetres high - purple fruit, abundant seed which is readily spread by birds and foxes.</p>	<p>tiger pear</p>  <p>TIGER PEAR (<i>Opuntia aurantiaca</i>)</p> <p>A low growing, segmented, very thorny plant. Hard to see amongst long grass. Grows from plant parts. Detached segments attach readily to passing animals, car tyres etc. Segments can also be spread by floodwaters. The plant has yellow flowers in spring producing green/red diffused with purple fruit in summer. Tiger Pear can cause serious injuries to animals and humans - barbed spines are very difficult and painful to remove.</p>	<p>privet</p>  <p>PRIVET (<i>Ligustrum</i> species)</p> <p>Privets are perennial evergreen shrubs or small trees to about 7 metres high. Bark is smooth and grey. Leaves are glossy, opposite pairs, oval in shape. Abundant heavily-scented small white tubular flowers are produced in clusters. Clusters of small round blue-black berries persist into winter. Broad-leaf flowers in summer and narrow leaf and european in spring. Seed is spread by fruit-eating birds. It is also washed down waterways. Privet leaves and berries are suspected of poisoning stock and berries poisonous to humans, while the flowers can cause allergic reactions.</p>
<p>viper's or italian bugloss</p>  <p>VIPER'S or ITALIAN BUGLOSS (<i>Echium vulgare</i>)</p> <p>This plant is often confused with Paterson's Curse. The main difference to the untrained is the blue flower colour and long thin leaves as opposed to the Paterson's Curse purple flowers and more ovate leaves. The plant rarely causes death but may cause chronic liver damage.</p>	<p>paterson's curse</p>  <p>PATERSON'S CURSE (<i>Echium</i> spp.)</p> <p>A winter-spring growing weed common throughout south-east Australia. An erect coarsely hairy annual with attractive purple flowers occasionally white, growing to 30 centimetres. The plant contains potent liver poisons known as pyrrolizidine alkaloids. Sustained grazing affects all livestock to varying degrees.</p>	<p>rhus tree</p>  <p>RHUS TREE (<i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>)</p> <p>A deciduous tree 8 metres tall. Leaves are pinnate divided into 9 to 15 leaflets arranged in pairs and a single leaflet at the tip, turning brilliant scarlet or crimson in autumn. Flowers are small, pale brown, flattened, papery in appearance and hang in bunches during autumn and winter. Can cause painful allergic reactions between 12 hours and 7 days after contact. Rhus causes severe dermatitis, beginning with a rash, redness, itching and blisters where the skin has touched the plant. Often accompanied by swelling of the face arms and legs. These symptoms usually last 7-10 days.</p>	<p>tree of heaven</p>  <p>TREE OF HEAVEN (<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>)</p> <p>An erect branching tree that spreads rapidly by new trees developing from creeping roots and seeds. Leaf extracts contain allelopathic substances which restrict the growth of other plants. For this reason the trees are often found in thick stands with no discernible competition.</p>	<p>WHAT IS A NOXIOUS WEED?</p> <p>What is... the Noxious Weeds Act 1993?</p> <p>What are... landholders obligations under the Act?</p> <p>How can... noxious weeds be controlled?</p> <p>What is... a Local Control Authority?</p> <p>For answers to these questions contact your LOCAL WEEDS OFFICER</p> <p>www.niwac.org</p> <p>Compiled by the NORTHERN INLAND WEEDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NIWAC)</p> 