

Defeating the Weed Menace 2005-06 Projects

Cross-regional projects

Implementing early detection programs for nationally significant aquatic weeds (\$296,500) New South Wales

This project will enable a full-time project officer to be engaged for a period of two years to help build capacity of weed control authorities to implement routine early detection programmes for aquatic weeds, and undertake field trials and implement early detection methodologies specifically tailored to *Waterwatch* and other community groups.

National assessment and development of best practice management information for Cabomba (\$210,900) New South Wales

This project is to develop Cabomba management best practice in two stages: Stage one involves national field assessment of herbicide trials conducted in 04-05 in southern and northern Australia; and Stage two involves developing best practice strategies and a manual.

Establishing a regional *Salvinia* Weevil breeding and distribution facility in north Queensland (\$74,950) Queensland

The project will establish a regional breeding and distribution facility for *salvinia* weevil to support integrated aquatic weed management activities throughout the coastal dry tropics and Mackay-Whitsunday regions.

Progression of downstream control of Athel Pine along the Finke River (\$419,760) Northern Territory

This project is designed to remove what remains of a strategically positioned core infestation of Athel pine in the lower reaches of the Finke River in central Australia, and encourage community engagement in the control program in the lower reaches of the catchment.

Northern SA Athel Pine reduction programme (\$73,640) South Australia

This project will address the threat of Athel pine by identifying where it is in the SA Arid Lands and Alinytjara Wilurara NRM regions; prioritising and carrying out control activities; and increasing awareness within communities of the threat that Athel pines pose.

Lantana containment zones (\$500,000) Queensland

The project will target strategic outlying infestations of lantana within containment zones on Cape York and in central Queensland, and protect areas exposed to new invasions. It will contain infestations on three Torres Strait Islands (Yorke, Murray and Darnely), and engage State and Territory agencies in NT, WA and Queensland to eradicate outlying infestations within the containment zones.

Southern Rivers Regional Lantana Strategy (\$125,750) New South Wales

This project builds on works executed with assistance from the Defeating the Weed Menace 04/05. Increase efforts to eradicate lantana in around half the Southern Rivers region.

Integrated strategic management of Mimosa on Aboriginal lands in the Northern Territory (\$339,287) Northern Territory

This project will support the continued implementation of strategic control and eradication programs conducted by 12 Community Aboriginal Rangers in the Top End targeting mimosa.

Implementation of a rubber vine eradication program in the west Kimberley, Western Australia (\$132,000) Western Australia

This project aims to control an infestation of rubber vine that was recently discovered on the Fitzroy River in the west Kimberley.

Initiating Rubber Vine best practice management — demonstration sites to support the integrity of the rubber vine Containment Line (\$80,000)

Queensland

This project will support regional NRM organisations within Queensland (Northern Gulf Catchment, Burdekin Dry Tropics, and Fitzroy Basin Association) for demonstration sites and support local government that have targeted rubber vine.

Eradication of Category 1 weeds of national significance in western NSW (\$614,390) New South Wales

The project aims to control and eradicate mesquite and other category one weeds in western NSW.

Intensifying the attack on serrated tussock: Targeting isolated infestations for eradication (\$365,000) Victoria

This project will coordinate the provision of a multi-regional incentive program and control isolated (satellite) serrated tussock and replace with appropriate vegetation.

Refining and implementing a willow management strategy for the upper Murrumbidgee catchment (\$392,000) New South Wales

This project will engage a project officer to refine strategic willow management in the upper Murrumbidgee.

Identification, mapping and eradication of naturalised non-crack Willow populations in Tasmania (\$181,100) Tasmania

This project will focus on survey, mapping and control activities and will deliver an education program to raise awareness.

Eliminating strategic Rubber Vine from headwaters of the Flinders and Burdekin catchments, Queensland (\$45,150) Queensland

This project aims to seek and destroy remaining isolated infestations of rubber vine located in the watercourses traversing participating properties in the Burdekin and Flinders headwaters.

Protection of north Australian grasslands from Pannicle Jointvetch (*Aeschynomene paniculata*) (\$120,317) Queensland

This project seeks to prevent plant spread and enable routine long-term control at Batavia Downs. Activities include surveys, plant eradication and quarantine in 600 ha high risk areas surrounding the core infestation.

No shrinking violet — a project to eradicate *Asystasia gangetica ssp micratha* (Chinese violet) (\$95,287) New South Wales

This project aims to harness the resources and abilities of landholders and the local community to eradicate Chinese violet before it can spread to other areas of Australia.

National Projects:

Alert and action on *Nassella Charruana* and a range of other National Alert List species in Victoria (\$86,000) Victoria

The project will employ a part-time project officer for a year to assist in follow-up surveys, landholder awareness and strategic eradication works for the six Alert List species spanning three NRM regions in Victoria

Weed risk assessment of tradeable aquatic plant species (\$151,000) New South Wales

This project will 'risk-assess' tradeable aquatic plant species, within the aquarium/nursery trade in Australia and overseas, and identify those with the potential to become significant weeds in Australia.

Establishment of a national program for the release of the Boneseed leaf buckle mite (\$465,189) Victoria

This project aims to speed up the delivery of biocontrol to end users by establishing a coordinated, national program for the release of the boneseed leaf buckle mite. The project will train community groups and regional land managers in the effective implementation of biocontrol. It will facilitate a regional approach to boneseed management by involving all relevant land managers in the project, and refining and promoting best practice management strategies for boneseed.

Genoa River Interstate Liaison Committee (GRILCO) integrated, total catchment Blackberry and Willow control program (\$215,000) Victoria

This project aims to control blackberry and willow within the Genoa and Wallagaraugh River catchments, including sites of national significance and target heavily infested sites in the upper catchment, with the aim of trialling innovative and conventional techniques.

National blackberry biological control programme in partnership with the community (\$841,203) Australian Capital Territory

This project will empower land managers towards effective, long-term management of blackberry. New strains of blackberry rust, with potential to enhance biological control, are now available for coordinated national release and monitoring. Strategically located release sites will be identified through an expression of interest process with the community. Community based releases will be supported with guidelines and fields days

Biodiversity impacts of Chilean needle grass on Australia's indigenous grasslands (\$163,700) Victoria

This project aims to document what effects Chilean needle grass is having on the flora and fauna in Australia's indigenous grassland remnants, and to make recommendations on best-practice remediation.

Introduction and monitoring of gorse biological control agents using community groups stage 3 (\$600,500) Tasmania

This project continues the work initiated through stages one and two of the gorse biological control programme. Mass rearing and field release for the gorse thrips, rearing, release and establishment for the gorse soft shoot moth and to conduct additional surveys for damaging agents in Europe.

Supporting the National Gorse Taskforce to implement the National Gorse Programme (\$15,040) Tasmania

This project will provide for the running costs of the National Gorse Taskforce, which contains representatives from all States and Territory where gorse is found, for two years to enable greater certainty in the engagement and support of this group.

Ecological basis for the integration management of *Hymenachne*. (\$532,402) Queensland

This project will devise practical approaches to the management of *Hymenachne* (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*). It will add to existing knowledge of this weed of national significance, targeting areas given high priority by the National Hymenachne Management Group. It will consider both ecological and economic factors, including the weed's dispersal, germination and establishment, range and habitat preferences, impacts, and responses to damage. It will work with stakeholders to address the needs of commercial, community and environmental sectors.

Lantana — strategically managing Lantana for biodiversity conservation (\$776,000) Queensland

This project will establish a list of biodiversity at risk from lantana invasions, from which a strategic framework can be developed that focuses on-ground control measures.

Lantana behaviour change campaign (\$231,000) Queensland

This project involves motivating landholders to control lantana on their properties. The project will use community service announcements (print and broadcast) and other printed materials. It will improve the accessibility of information about lantana by updating web sites and ensuring availability at service centres.

Lantana integrated control and best management practices project continuation (\$452,500) Queensland

This project aims to improve on-ground management practices for landholders to ensure their actions achieve long-term successful control of lantana by continuing integrated control trial sites, which have been underway for 12 months, for a further two years. The project will report on the best techniques and publish a lantana best management practice manual (to compliment an existing practices manual). It will improve acceptance and adoption of integrated management options by demonstrating optimum results.

Delivery of remote sensing for lantana using landsat TM (\$451,500) Queensland

The project will deliver regional-scale lantana mapping using landsat imagery. It follows a 2005 pilot over south east Queensland proved that a unique spectral signature could be identified. The project will roll-out across Queensland and NSW.

Coordinated national education and awareness programs for Parthenium Weed and Rubber Vine (\$102,800) Queensland

This project aims to facilitate a change in community attitudes and behaviours in terms of parthenium weed and rubber vine identification and management across specific regions of NSW, WA, Victoria, NT and Queensland.

National Prickle Bush Management Group — advancing national strategies, evaluation and mapping (\$92,850) Queensland

The main purpose of the project is to develop revised national strategic actions for mesquite, parkinsonia and prickle acacia, and complement these through national mapping and evaluation exercises.

Advancing national Prickle Bush weeds of national significance education and awareness (\$97,000) Queensland

This project will develop and implement a national awareness program with two major aims: prevention/early detection and best practice adoption.

Developing Willow management priorities from local to the national level (\$375,180) Victoria

This project addresses high priority actions in the Willows National Priority Action Framework by determining the current distribution of naturalised willow taxa. The project will produce risk assessments and interactive maps of the current and potential distribution of all willow taxa present in Australia for State and national planning. It will develop a national prioritisation matrix based on risk and feasibility for coordinated control and establish a process for monitoring change across Australia.

Sustainable garden centre certification for retail nurseries in southern Australia: Phase 1 (\$265,000) Victoria

This project aims to develop and pilot activities to achieve sustainable garden centre certification, retail garden centre staff training, display of customer education material at point of sale and an industry code of practice that requires the removal and labelling of invasive species.

Weed awareness and empowerment in indigenous communities (\$113,600) Northern Territory

This project seeks to extend a 2003 project by the Weeds CRC, together with AQIS and the Indigenous Land Corporation, in which an Aboriginal weeds liaison officer built awareness of invasive plants in all Indigenous communities in coastal NT. That approach is to be extended to central Australia and Cape York in partnership with local authorities and Indigenous organisations

Victorian Wimmera and south east South Australia Bridal Creeper spore water program (\$333,000) Victoria

This project aims to spread bridal creeper rust throughout the infestation area of the Wimmera and SE South Australia by using spore water; to employ part-time facilitators and provide dedicated ute-pack-spray units for the spore water program; and develop landholder and landcare groups' skills to ensure long-term continued application of spore water after the program has finished

National *Hymenachne* (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*) education and awareness (\$62,500) Queensland

This project will develop and implement a national communication plan linking with any existing products developed by state agencies of other groups.

National Pond Apple (*Annona glabra*) education and awareness (\$75,500) Queensland

This project will develop and implement a national communication plan linking with any existing products developed by State agencies of other groups. The project will result in production of brochures, posters and other materials targeting specific audiences.

Biological control of *Mimosa Pigra*: host testing 2006-07 (\$155,063) Queensland

This project involves the last two insects that are priority species for the biocontrol of mimosa (*Nesaecrepida infusca* — previously *Syphrea bibiana* and *Temnocerus debilis*).