

Environmental weed advisory list update, Victoria

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Summary Invasive plants present a serious and ongoing threat to the Victoria's biodiversity. There is an emerging need to usefully discriminate between the temporal risk posed by individual species, such that, in combination with other asset based data, resources allocated to pest management can be deployed to best advantage. In 2008–2009 five advisory lists of environmental weeds were published providing risk scores for about 680 species across Victoria. They have been very useful tools for land managers to help prioritise weed management activities. The Weeds at the Early Stage of Invasion (WESI) project

commissioned an update of the lists in 2017. The update has now incorporated all known naturalised Victorian plant species including potential and early invader weeds, extending the list to 1780 plant taxa, of which, 1227 are currently considered to be environmental weeds. All environmental weeds have been ranked with respect to management urgency, by means of an objective 'expert system'. The advisory list is intended to provide 'non-statutory' advice to conservation managers.

Keywords Environmental weed, risk rating, early invaders, advisory list.