

Integrated Weed Management Plan

Introduction

Integrated Weed Management (IWM) is a process by which one selects and applies a combination of management techniques (biological, chemical, mechanical, and cultural) that, together, will control a particular weed species or infestation efficiently and effectively, with minimal adverse impacts to non-target organisms.

IWM seeks to combine two or more control actions which will interact to provide better control than any one of the actions might provide. Multiple methods used at different times of year, may be necessary.

IWM does not necessarily require the eradication of a weed species or a particular infestation of weeds, although these might be the objective in some cases (eg. some noxious weed species).

IWM is species-specific, tailored to exploit the weaknesses of a particular weed species, site specific and designed to be practical and safe.

Procedure

- 1. GATHER DATA** - Use the Checklist and Templates A and B provided to gather site data and weed data and set priorities for an Integrated Weed Management Plan.
- 2. WRITE THE PLAN** Use Template C provided to describe or outline the IWM actions you intend to take to control the priority weeds and infestations on your property using the criteria listed below. Take into account all the information you have gathered.

- ◆ Which species are planned for control?
- ◆ What length of time is expected for control?
- ◆ Which methods will be used, and time of year for each method?
- ◆ What is the plan to monitor progress of weed species?
- ◆ How will weed plan be evaluated for effectiveness?

3. EVALUATE AND ADAPT PLAN

After control has been applied, evaluate your plan and adapt as needed until your goals are achieved. Remember that some of your goals are long term, and will require several seasons to achieve the results that you want.

Template A

Date _____

Location__ (be specific for your sites ie vegetable garden, driveway, ornamental shrub beds, fill out a template for each site and/or each weed species) _____

Weed species __ (list all the species you want to control) _____

Approximate size of area of concern_ (for each site) _____

Management Goals__ (eg. weed free vegetable garden, healthy turf for play area, maintain integrity of driveway by controlling all weeds) _____

Photos and or sketches (include these to compare before and after)

Summary of Weed Species Data Template B

Scientific Name	Common Name	Priority (*H,M,L)	Life cycle details	Effective Control Methods

* High, Medium, Low

Integrated Weed Management Plan Template C

Weed species for control? (list information on name of weed, life cycle ie. annual, perennial, or biennial and noxious or nuisance weed)
Period of time for weed species control? (refer to information on timing of germination, flowering and seed set to determine optimum timing for control)
Method of controls to be used? (mechanical, cultural, chemical etc., be specific here eg. digging large plants (mechanical) and spraying remaining seedlings with glyphosate (chemical), then applying compost and reseeding in irrigated area (cultural).)
How do you plan to monitor weed species? (describe how you will keep track of how your control is working, eg. take photos, count rosettes, keep notes on weed cover high/medium/low compared to before treatment)
How will you know weed plan is effective? (compare monitoring information over the season to pretreatment, assess how close you are to meeting specifics of your management goal)

Integrated Weed Management Plan Checklist

- Define goals
 - Short term goal (1-3 years)
 - Long term goal (4-6 years)

- Describe property to be managed
 - Location
 - Size
 - Slope
 - Aspect

- Site information
 - Soil type
 - Irrigation type
 - Ornamental plants associated with weeds
 - Native plants or animals associated with land
 - Water systems (lake, river, stream) on land or adjacent to land

- Weed Identification
 - Weed species (scientific name)
 - Area of weed infestation or number of weeds
 - Method of weed introduction and spread
 - Risk ranking – control priority (Noxious, highly invasive, allelopathy, etc.)

- Weed Management Priorities
 - Prevention of potential invaders
 - Intensive management/eradication
 - management of established stands

- IPM Strategies
 - Prevention
 - Mechanical/Physical
 - Biological
 - Chemical
 - Cultural
 - Revegetation

- Monitor and Evaluate Efficacy
 - Weed population
 - Evaluation and efficacy
 - Adjust management strategies, if needed