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Solanum tuberosum - environmental weed risk assessment 2022

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Environmental weed risk assessment

Potato (*Solanum tuberosum*)

Potato is a starchy tuber of *Solanum tuberosum* and is a root vegetable native to the Americas. It has a long history of domestication and is now the world's fourth most important food crop.

Potatoes are an important horticulture crop in Western Australia being the second highest value vegetable crop after carrots, and the second highest value-adding horticulture industry after the wine industry.

Weed lists

National-international:

- Not listed in Weeds of Australia (398 weed species) <https://weeds.org.au/weeds-profiles/>
- Not listed in Weeds of Australia website [Fact sheet Index \(lucidcentral.org\)](https://www.lucidcentral.org/fact-sheet-index/)
- In the Global Compendium of Weeds, potato is listed as an agricultural weed, casual alien, cultivation escape, environmental weed, garden thug, naturalised, weed (Randall 2017).

Western Australia:

- Not listed in Western weeds. A guide to the weeds of Western Australia (Hussey et al. 2007).
- Not listed in 'The naturalized vascular plants of Western Australia 1: Checklist, environmental weeds, and distribution in IBRA regions' (Keighery and Longman 2004).
- Not listed in Environmental weeds of Western Australia (Keighery 1991).



Figure 1 Distribution of potato (*Solanum tuberosum*) in Australia
(Source: 'The Australasian Virtual Herbarium')

Environmental weed risk assessment

Assessed using the 'Environmental weed risk assessment protocol for growing non-indigenous plants in the Western Australian rangelands' (Moore et al. 2022)

Region	Filter A	Filter B	Weed Risk Assessment rating
	Is the species a weed in similar environments in Australia or overseas?	Is the species likely to persist in the environment without management*?	
Kimberley	No	No	Negligible to low
Pilbara	No	No	Negligible to low
Gascoyne – Goldfields	No	No	Negligible to low
Agricultural area	No	No	Negligible to low

*Without management means no fertiliser, Rhizobia, irrigation, grazing management or control of competition from other species

References

- Hussey BMJ, Keighery GJ, Dodd J, Lloyd SG, Cousens RD (2007) 'Western weeds. A guide to the weeds of Western Australia'. Second Edition. The Weeds Society of Western Australia Inc.
- Keighery GJ (1991) Environmental weeds of Western Australia. *Kowari*, **2**: 180-188.
- Keighery G, Longman V (2004) The naturalized vascular plants of Western Australia 1: Checklist, environmental weeds and distribution in IBRA regions. *Plant Protection Quarterly*, **19(1)**: 12-32.
- Moore G, Munday C, Barua P (2022) 'Environmental weed risk assessment protocol for growing non-indigenous plants in the Western Australian rangelands', Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, *Bulletin no. 4924*, Perth.
- Randall RP (2017) 'Global compendium of weeds' (No. Ed. 3).
- Weeds of Australia database
https://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/trifolium_repens.htm Site accessed 30 November 2021

Assessment by G Moore and N Nazeri
January 2022

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