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Vitis vinifera - environmental weed risk assessment 2022

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Environmental weed risk assessment

Grapevines (*Vitis vinifera*)

Grapevines are grown for both direct consumption of the fruit as table grapes or dried vine fruit and for fermentation to produce wine. They are cultivated worldwide, but originate from southern Europe.

In Western Australia (WA) the viticulture industry was initially centred around the Swan Valley, but the work of Olmo (1956) and Gladstones (1965, 1992) described the similarity between the Margaret River region and the Bordeaux area in France and this led to the establishment of a thriving wine industry in the south-west. Table grape production has subsequently expanded to new regions including Carnarvon, Harvey, Vasse and Margaret River, while the wine industry has expanded to new areas including Peel, Geographe, Blackwood Valley, Manjimup, Pemberton and the Great Southern.

In northern WA table grapes are being successfully grown in the west Kimberley under irrigation.

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 \(lucidcentral.org\)](http://lucidcentral.org)
- In the Global Compendium of Weeds grapevines are listed as a casual alien, cultivation escape, environmental weed, naturalised, weed (Randall 2017).

Western Australia:

- "...Grapevines may persist from abandoned plantings and are occasionally found naturalised around Perth and in the south-west" (Hussey et al. 2007).
- Not listed in 'The naturalized vascular plants of Western Australia' (Keighery and Longman 2004).
- Naturalised in national parks and nature reserves in WA (Keighery 1991).



Figure 1 Distribution of grapevines (*Vitis vinifera*) 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

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Gladstones JS (1965) The climate and soils of southwestern Australia in relation to vine growing. *The Journal of the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science* **31**: 275-288.

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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.

Olmo HP (1956) A survey of the Grape Industry in Western Australia. (Vine Fruits Research Trust: 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
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