

APPENDIX 2

Guidelines for Completing Current Distribution and Density Maps

Three national grids have been generated to collect distribution data relating to weeds identified by each State as of national significance (see Annexures IV and V). A half degree grid was applied to the larger States: NSW, NT, QLD, SA and WA, while a quarter degree grid was used for VIC and an eighth-degree grid used for ACT and TAS.

These grids were mapped for each State. Each cell has a unique number which relates to a spreadsheet. To help identify areas that these cells represent, latitude and longitude are included on all maps, as are local government areas (LGAs) on a separate map. A third map with 1:5 million scale drainage features has been included to aid aquatic weed identification.

States which hold relevant weed data within a GIS and can provide the data, gridded, as per the maps, in Arc/Info 7.1.2 format only.

EXCEL spreadsheets were created for each State. The first worksheet lists the weed species identified by that State and requires information regarding whether the data are provided and the source of those data. The columns are titles as given below and require the following responses:

Data_provided: YES or NO for each weed species

Data_sources: Name and contact number of the organisation/person responsible for the data origin, including a date if possible.

For each weed species, a worksheet within the spreadsheet exists. Each worksheet requires the following information to be entered in accordance with the cell number on the map under the column heading "Density".

0		weed species absent
1	low:	scattered plants with no heavy concentrations <20% infested
2	medium:	scattered patches with isolated plants interspersed 20–50% infested
3	high:	dense infestations in which animal/plant production or desired vegetation/biodiversity aspects are seriously diminished or limited >50% infested

Any queries regarding density definitions should be directed to John Thorp, Project Manager