



Willow Resource Sheet : 1

Developing willow management priorities

Because you can't manage what you don't know!

What's wrong with willows?

Although a familiar and often well-loved icon of the Australian landscape, willows are among the most serious riparian and wetland weeds in temperate Australia. In 1999, willows were listed as one of Australia's 20 Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) due to their highly invasive nature and impacts on hydrology and biodiversity.

In 2006/2007, over 600 people across Australia participated in regional willows workshops as part of an Australian Government funded project titled:

“Developing willow management priorities from the local to the national level.”

This project was co-ordinated by the Victorian Department of Primary Industries on behalf of the National Willows Taskforce.

The aims of the project were to:

- Train people in willow identification, mapping and the latest information about willow sawfly
- Collate all existing mapping data available across Australia
- Create interactive national, state, regional, local and hot spot maps that show the distribution and potential spread of willows
- Undertake a weed risk assessment to prioritise willow taxa for action, based on invasiveness, impacts, current and potential distribution and feasibility of control and
- Produce reports for each state and NRM region with priority actions for willow management.

This resource kit:

The following resource sheets provide important information for managers on mapping, willow identification and the willow sawfly. They include:

- Willow identification: an essential skill for successful willow management
- Willow sawfly (*Nematus oligospilus*)
- Willow and willow sawfly assessment form
- Willow infestation classes

For further information or to become involved:

Access available resources: This resource kit, results of the weed risk assessment and an interactive mapping database will all be available for download from www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/willows by March 2008. At this website, there will also be directions for how you can contribute mapping data in the future to the national database.

Continue to map willows in your catchment:

Continued mapping of willows is critical to enable us to most effectively prioritise management actions from the local to the national level. For what information to record when mapping, refer to resource sheet 4 and/or download the excel file at our website.

Willows workshops continue to be conducted by trained participants in various regions.

Run a regional willows workshop: the workshop presentations are also available for download at www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/willows, or contact the National Willows Coordinator (contact details on the web at www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/willows).

Participate in a regional willows workshop: check the web for where and when workshops are being held, or alternatively organise a workshop yourself. Contact the National Willows Coordinator for assistance with finding a local trainer.

Find us on the web at www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/willows

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