

Cabomba National Priority Framework 2009-2011

Coordinate
management and
prevent spread

Prevent the
trade in
cabomba

Minimise the
impacts of
cabomba

Improve control
methods and
initiate research

The existing impacts of cabomba are minimised

Priority

1

- ★ Continuation of National Coordination and management group (2.1.5)
- ★ Education and awareness programs, incorporating community and industry awareness, prevention of spread and Identification Training (2.1.2)

- ★ Continue weed risk assessments on replacement species within the aquatic plant trade (2.2.2)
- ★ Implement recommendations from VIC DPI aquarium trade review*

- ★ Identify high risk cabomba infestations based on risk of impacts and further spread (2.3.1)
- ★ Manage high risk cabomba sites using best practice management (2.3.1)
- ★ Seek registration or minor use permits for effective herbicides (2.3.1)

- ★ Continuation of biological control agent research (2.3.3)
- ★ Improve herbicide and non herbicide control techniques and develop integrated control methods (2.3.3)

2

- ★ Undertake reconnaissance surveys in catchments at high risk of invasion (2.1.3)

- ★ Support aquatic plant trade initiatives for developing voluntary accreditation schemes or similar (2.2.4)

- ★ Map the extent of new infestations (2.3.1)

- ★ Quantify the economic and environmental impact of cabomba (2.3.4)

Priorities are based on the National Strategy and/or the National Aquatic Weeds Management Group five year plan. Numbers in brackets correspond to actions in the National Strategy whilst * corresponds to priorities identified in NAWMG five year plan.

Detailed information regarding the Cabomba National Priority Framework

The cabomba priority framework is divided into 4 sections

1. Coordinate management and prevent spread
2. Prevent the trade in cabomba
3. Minimise the impacts of cabomba
4. Research and development

This document provides further detail regarding each of the priorities listed. It's advisable for potential applicants contact the National Aquatic Weeds Coordinator before developing applications.

Coordinate management and prevent spread

Priority 1

National coordination priorities include:

- Support for the National Aquatic Weeds Management Group (including coordinator) in coordinating strategic management of cabomba in Australia
- Attract sponsors/partners to promote, implement and help fund priority cabomba management actions

Support the implementation of education programs that address education components of the national strategy and the National Aquatic Weeds communication plan. This includes:

- awareness campaigns amongst rural property owners, eel trappers and boating and fishing audiences to prevent them from introducing or spreading cabomba
- Aquatic plant trade awareness campaign regarding responsible trading of aquatic plants
- cabomba & aquatic weeds identification workshops in regions at high risk of invasion
- cabomba field days to communicate best practice information.

Priority 2

Regions/catchments at high risk of cabomba invasion include:

- Murray Darling Basin (QLD, NSW, VIC and SA)
- Coastal Queensland and NSW
- Northern Territory
- Gippsland (VIC)
- Peri urban catchments within 50km of major population centres

Prevent the trade in cabomba (and other high weed risk aquatic plants)

Priority 1

Conduct weed risk assessments of aquatic plants that were identified as having potential weed risk by the aquatic plants weed risk assessment project. This also involves:

- Conducting assessments of field populations
- Conducting competition trials of assessed species vs native species

Implement recommendations from the Victoria Department of Primary Industries review into the aquatic plant trade.

Priority 2

Provide support to the nursery and aquarium trade to assist with development of voluntary aquatic plant accreditation and/or labelling schemes, communication programs or similar.

Note: Such work should not involve recommending alternative aquatic plants.

Minimise the impacts of cabomba

Priority 1

Identify and prioritise high risk cabomba infestations based on potential for further spread and impact.

Manage high risk cabomba infestations utilising best practice. These include:

- Outlying infestations, including those within the Northern Territory and Murray Darling basin
- Infestations posing an immediate risk to key ecological assets
- High priority infestations identified through a proposed national prioritisation process.

Seek registration or minor use permits for effective herbicides identified by herbicide efficacy trials.

Priority 2

Map the extent of new infestations, including upstream limits and potential downstream spread and impacts.

Research

Priority 1

Cabomba biological control research involves:

- Continuing host specificity testing of priority insects
- Mass rearing and release of host specific insects following Australian Government approval for release
- Investigate the use of plant pathogens for biological control

Improvement of and integration of control techniques (herbicide and non herbicide) to develop effective eradication strategies for cabomba involves:

- Efficacy trials of new herbicides and delivery agents (eg gels)
- Continue efficacy trials of non herbicide options, including shading, use of dyes and drawdown techniques and
- Developing cost effective integrated strategies for eradication, utilising both herbicide and non herbicide treatments.

Priority 2

Quantify economic and ecological impacts of cabomba to Australia, including:

- The current economic and ecological impacts
- the key economic and ecological assets at risk (eg irrigation schemes, RAMSAR wetlands and critical aquatic habitats) of invasion and potential impacts to them.
- Benefit/cost analysis of control programs