

# Part IV. Plant Assessment Form

For use with “Criteria for Categorizing Invasive Non-Native Plants that Threaten Wildlands”  
by the California Exotic Pest Plant Council and the Southwest Vegetation Management Association

Electronic version, February 28, 2003

**Table 1. Species and Evaluator Information**

<b>Species name (Latin binomial):</b>	Brachypodium distachyon (L.) Beauv.
<b>Synonyms:</b>	Bromus distachya (L.) Link., Trachynia distachya (L.) Link
<b>Common names:</b>	annual false-brome, false brome, purple false brome, stiff brome
<b>Evaluation date (mm/dd/yy):</b>	1/3/07
<b>Evaluator #1 Name/Title:</b>	Elizabeth Brusati, project manager
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Section below for list committee use—please leave blank

<b>List committee members:</b>	Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Joanna Clines
<b>Committee review date:</b>	2/14/2007
<b>List date:</b>	enter text here
<b>Re-evaluation date(s):</b>	enter text here

<p><b>General comments on this assessment:</b> enter text here</p>
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**Table 2. Criteria, Section, and Overall Scores**

<a href="#">1.1</a>	Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	<b>B</b>	<b>Observational</b>
<a href="#">1.2</a>	Impact on plant community	<b>B</b>	<b>Observational</b>
<a href="#">1.3</a>	Impact on higher trophic levels	<b>B</b>	<b>Other Pub. Mat'l</b>
<a href="#">1.4</a>	Impact on genetic integrity	<b>D</b>	<b>Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n</b>

<p><b>Impact</b></p> <p><i>Enter four characters from Q1.1-1.4 below:</i></p> <p><b>BBBD</b></p> <p><i>Using matrix, determine score and enter below:</i></p> <p><b>B</b></p>
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<a href="#">2.1</a>	Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance	3 (2 pts)	<b>Observational</b>
<a href="#">2.2</a>	Local rate of spread with no management	3 (2 pts)	<b>Observational</b>
<a href="#">2.3</a>	Recent trend in total area infested within state	3 (2 pts)	<b>Observational</b>
<a href="#">2.4</a>	Innate reproductive potential <a href="#">Wksht A</a>	3 (1 pt)	<b>Other Pub. Mat'l</b>
<a href="#">2.5</a>	Potential for human-caused dispersal	3 (2 pts)	<b>Other Pub. Mat'l</b>
<a href="#">2.6</a>	Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	3 (1 pt)	<b>Other Pub. Mat'l</b>
<a href="#">2.7</a>	Other regions invaded	3 (1 pt)	<b>Other Pub. Mat'l</b>

<p><b>Invasiveness</b></p> <p><i>Enter the sum total of all points for Q2.1-2.7 below:</i></p> <p><b>11</b></p> <p><i>Use matrix to determine score and enter below:</i></p> <p><b>B</b></p>
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<p><b>Plant Score</b></p> <p><i>Using matrix, determine Overall Score and Alert Status from the three section scores and enter below:</i></p> <p><b>Medium</b></p> <p><b>No Alert</b></p>
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<a href="#">3.1</a>	Ecological amplitude/Range	<b>B</b>	<b>Other Pub. Mat'l</b>
<a href="#">3.2</a>	Distribution/Peak frequency <a href="#">Wksht C</a>	<b>C</b>	<b>Observational</b>

<p><b>Distribution</b></p> <p><i>Using matrix, determine score and enter below:</i></p> <p><b>B</b></p>
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**Table 3. Documentation**

<b>Question 1.1</b> Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	B Observational <a href="#">back</a>
Identify ecosystem processes impacted: Can form dense stands that can change fire regimes and build up thick litter layers.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, observational	
<b>Question 1.2</b> Impact on plant community composition, structure, and interactions	B Observational <a href="#">back</a>
Identify type of impact or alteration: Can form dense stands in some locations, particularly in oak woodlands. These near monotypic stands can reduce diversity and prevent native species from establishing.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, observational	
<b>Question 1.3</b> Impact on higher trophic levels	B Other Pub. Mat'l <a href="#">back</a>
Identify type of impact or alteration: Fibrous stems make it a poor forage. Long awns can also injure animals.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J. M., and E. A. Healy. 2007. Weeds of California and Other Western States. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3488. Oakland, CA. text here	
<b>Question 1.4</b> Impact on genetic integrity	D Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n <a href="#">back</a>
Identify impacts: None	
Rationale: No native Brachypodium in California.	
Sources of information: Hickman, J. C. (ed.) 1993. The Jepson Manual, Higher Plants of California. University of California Press. Berkeley, CA enter text here	
<b>Question 2.1</b> Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance in establishment	B Observational <a href="#">back</a>
Describe role of disturbance: Generally found in disturbed areas, but can readily move into relatively undisturbed grasslands and oak woodlands.	
Rationale: enter text here	

Sources of information: DiTomaso, observational	
<b>Question 2.2</b> Local rate of spread with no management	B Observational <a href="#">back</a>
Describe rate of spread: Seems to still be spreading, but probably at a relatively slow rate statewide. Regionally it can spread rapidly.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, observational	
<b>Question 2.3</b> Recent trend in total area infested within state	B Observational <a href="#">back</a>
Describe trend: Locally abundant in California, but still spreading statewide.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, observational	
<b>Question 2.4</b> Innate reproductive potential	C Other Pub. Mat'l <a href="#">back</a>
Describe key reproductive characteristics: Winter annual. Reproduces by seed. Spikelets and florets April to June.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J. M., and E. A. Healy. 2007. Weeds of California and Other Western States. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3488. Oakland, CA.	
<b>Question 2.5</b> Potential for human-caused dispersal	B Other Pub. Mat'l <a href="#">back</a>
Identify dispersal mechanisms: Florets can be dispersed by vehicle tires and human activities, particularly in contaminated hay.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J. M., and E. A. Healy. 2007. Weeds of California and Other Western States. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3488. Oakland, CA. text here	
<b>Question 2.6</b> Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	C Other Pub. Mat'l <a href="#">back</a>
Identify dispersal mechanisms: Florets fall near the plant and may disperse with animals.	

Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J. M., and E. A. Healy. 2007. Weeds of California and Other Western States. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3488. Oakland, CA. text here	
<b>Question 2.7</b> Other regions invaded	C Other Pub. Mat'l <a href="#">back</a>
Identify other regions: Native to southern Europe. Present in Oregon, Colorado, Texas, and New Jersey. Found in similar habitats in other regions of the country and in its native range.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J. M., and E. A. Healy. 2007. Weeds of California and Other Western States. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3488. Oakland, CA.	
<b>Question 3.1</b> Ecological amplitude/Range	B Other Pub. Mat'l <a href="#">back</a>
Describe ecological amplitude, identifying date of source information and approximate date of introduction to the state, if known: Sierra Nevada foothills, Central Valley, southern North Coast ranges, southern Cascade Range foothills, Central Western region, South Coast, Santa Catalina and Channel Islands, to 600m. Invades dry slopes and fields, roadsides, disturbed grasslands, margins of shrub thickets. Tolerates partial shade in oak woodlands.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J. M., and E. A. Healy. 2007. Weeds of California and Other Western States. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources Publication 3488. Oakland, CA. text here	
<b>Question 3.2</b> Distribution/Peak frequency	C Observational <a href="#">back</a>
Describe distribution: Common in grasslands and in oak woodlands	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, observational	

**Worksheet A**[back](#)

Reaches reproductive maturity in 2 years or less	<b>Yes: 1 pt</b>
Dense infestations produce >1,000 viable seed per square meter	<b>No: 0 pts</b>
Populations of this species produce seeds every year.	<b>Yes: 1 pt</b>
Seed production sustained over 3 or more months within a population annually	<b>No: 0 pt</b>
Seeds remain viable in soil for three or more years	<b>No: 0 pts</b>
Viable seed produced with <i>both</i> self-pollination and cross-pollination	<b>Unknown: 0 pts</b>
Has quickly spreading vegetative structures (rhizomes, roots, etc.) that may root at nodes	<b>No: 0 pt</b>
Fragments easily and fragments can become established elsewhere	<b>No: 0 pts</b>
Resprouts readily when cut, grazed, or burned	<b>No: 0 pt</b>
	<b>2 pts      1 unknown</b>
	<b>C (1-3)</b>

**Note any related traits:** enter text here

## Worksheet C - California Ecological Types

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(*sensu* Holland 1986)

Major Ecological Types	Minor Ecological Types	Code*
<b>Marine Systems</b>	marine systems	score
<b>Freshwater and Estuarine Aquatic Systems</b>	lakes, ponds, reservoirs	score
	rivers, streams, canals	score
	estuaries	score
<b>Dunes</b>	coastal	score
	desert	score
	interior	score
<b>Scrub and Chaparral</b>	coastal bluff scrub	score
	coastal scrub	score
	Sonoran desert scrub	score
	Mojavean desert scrub (incl. Joshua tree woodland)	score
	Great Basin scrub	score
	chenopod scrub	score
	montane dwarf scrub	score
	Upper Sonoran subshrub scrub	score
	chaparral	score
<b>Grasslands, Vernal Pools, Meadows, and other Herb Communities</b>	coastal prairie	score
	valley and foothill grassland	C. 5-20%
	Great Basin grassland	score
	vernal pool	score
	meadow and seep	score
	alkali playa	score
	pebble plain	score
<b>Bog and Marsh</b>	bog and fen	score
	marsh and swamp	score
<b>Riparian and Bottomland</b>	riparian forest	score
	riparian woodland	score
	riparian scrub (incl. desert washes)	score
<b>Woodland</b>	cismontane woodland	C. 5-20%
	piñon and juniper woodland	score
	Sonoran thorn woodland	score
<b>Forest</b>	broadleaved upland forest	score
	North Coast coniferous forest	score
	closed cone coniferous forest	score
	lower montane coniferous forest	score
	upper montane coniferous forest	score
	subalpine coniferous forest	score
<b>Alpine Habitats</b>	alpine boulder and rock field	score
	alpine dwarf scrub	score

\* A. means >50% of type occurrences are invaded; B means >20% to 50%; C. means >5% to 20%; D. means present but ≤5%; U. means unknown (unable to estimate percentage of occurrences invaded).