

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

Table 1. Species and Evaluator Information

Species name (Latin binomial):	Ehrharta erecta Lam.
Synonyms:	Ehrharta panicea SM., E. paniciformis Nees ex Trin., Panicum deflexum Guss., Trochera panicea Baill
Common names:	panic veldtgrass, Ehrharta, Lamarck's ehrharta, panic veld grass, Stebbin's grass
Evaluation date (mm/dd/yy):	07/22/04
Evaluator #1 Name/Title:	Mark Frey, Ecologist
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Evaluator #2 Name/Title:	enter text here
Affiliation:	enter text here
Phone numbers:	enter text here
Email address:	enter text here
Address:	enter text here

Section below for list committee use—please leave blank

List committee members:	Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, Cynthia Roye
Committee review date:	8/27/2004
List date:	enter text here
Re-evaluation date(s):	enter text here

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

1.1	Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	U	No Information
1.2	Impact on plant community	A	Observational
1.3	Impact on higher trophic levels	C	Anecdotal
1.4	Impact on genetic integrity	D	Other Pub. Mat'l

Impact

Enter four characters from Q1.1-1.4 below:

UACD

Using matrix, determine score and enter below:

B

2.1	Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance	B (2 pts)	Observational
2.2	Local rate of spread with no management	A (3 pts)	Observational
2.3	Recent trend in total area infested within state	A (3 pts)	Observational
2.4	Innate reproductive potential Wksht A	A (3 pts)	Other Pub. Mat'l
2.5	Potential for human-caused dispersal	B (2 pts)	Other Pub. Mat'l
2.6	Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	C (1 pt)	Observational
2.7	Other regions invaded	C (1 pt)	Other Pub. Mat'l

Invasiveness

Enter the sum total of all points for Q2.1-2.7 below:

15

Use matrix to determine score and enter below:

B

Plant Score

Using matrix, determine Overall Score and Alert Status from the three section scores and enter below:

Medium

No Alert

3.1	Ecological amplitude/Range	A	Other Pub. Mat'l
3.2	Distribution/Peak frequency Wksht C	C	Observational

Distribution

Using matrix, determine score and enter below:

B

Table 3. Documentation

Question 1.1 Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	U No Information back
Identify ecosystem processes impacted:	
Rationale:	
Sources of information:	
Question 1.2 Impact on plant community composition, structure, and interactions	A Observational back
Identify type of impact or alteration: Outcompetes native grasses and herbs. Increases litter accumulation, which is the mechanism of competitive exclusion.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: Observational, Mark Frey. McIntyre, S. and PY Ladiges. 1985. Aspects of the biology of <i>Ehrharta erecta</i> Lam. Weed Research. 25:21-32. Observational, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, 2004.	
Question 1.3 Impact on higher trophic levels	C Anecdotal back
Identify type of impact or alteration: Reduces available native forage. No real information exists on its direct impacts.	
Rationale: Response based on displacement of native plant spp and food sources for native wildlife.	
Sources of information: Anecdotal.	
Question 1.4 Impact on genetic integrity	D Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify impacts: No closely related CA natives.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: Hickman, JC. 1993. The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California. UC Press Observational, Mark Frey.	
Question 2.1 Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance in establishment	B Observational back
Describe role of disturbance: Facilitated by shade and moisture. Readily moves into gaps formed by tree fall and spread by mowing.	

Rationale:	
Sources of information: Observational, Mark Frey. McIntyre, S. and PY Ladiges. 1985. Aspects of the biology of Ehrharta erecta Lam. Weed Research. 25:21-32. Observational, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, 2004.	
Question 2.2 Local rate of spread with no management	A Observational back
Describe rate of spread: Rapidly spreads and perniciously persists.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: Observational, Mark Frey. Observational, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, 2004.	
Question 2.3 Recent trend in total area infested within state	A Observational back
Describe trend: Expanding throughouth the state.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: Observational, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, 2004.	
Question 2.4 Innate reproductive potential	A Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe key reproductive characteristics: Matures rapidly, sets many seeds, sets seed for an extended period.	
Rationale: 7 pts	
Sources of information: McIntyre, S. and PY Ladiges. 1985. Aspects of the biology of Ehrharta erecta Lam. Weed Research. 25:21-32. Sigg, J. 1996. Ehrharta erecta: Sneak attack in the making? CalEPPC News 4(3):8-9. Observational, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, 2004.	
Question 2.5 Potential for human-caused dispersal	B Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify dispersal mechanisms: Can attach to boots in mud. Mowing aids establishment and dispersal.	
Rationale: enter text here	

Sources of information: Sigg, J. 1996. Ehrharta erecta: Sneak attack in the making? CalEPPC News 4(3):8-9.	
Question 2.6 Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	C Observational back
Identify dispersal mechanisms: Unlikely except on rare occasions. Can be spread by moving water.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: Observational, Mark Frey. Observational, Peter Warner, 2004.	
Question 2.7 Other regions invaded	C Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify other regions: Europe, Northern Africa, Australia.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: McIntyre, S. and PYLadiges. 185. Aspects of the biology of Ehrharta ereca Lam. Weed Research. 25: 21-32. Ricciardi, M and B Anazalone. 1988. Ehrharta erecta Lam. Graminea in Italy. Webbia. 42(2): 145-152. Scott, JK and ES Del Fosse. 1992. Southern African plants naturalized in Australia: A review of weed status and biological control potential. Plant Protection Quarterly. 7(2): 70-80.	
Question 3.1 Ecological amplitude/Range	A Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe ecological amplitude, identifying date of source information and approximate date of introduction to the state, if known: Invades a wide variety of habitats throughout the central coast and southern California.	
Rationale: Invades 5 major and 9 minor ecotypes in CA.	
Sources of information: Muns, B. ND. Updates to Lower Eaton Canyon, San Gabriel Mts For a: A checklish of the vascular plants. http://tchester.org/sgm/plants/floras/lower_eaton_canyon_updates.html . Top 20 Pest Plants in the East Bay, East Bay California Native Plant Society. www.ebcnps.org Vascular plants of Bodega Head & Bodega Dunes. www.bml.ucdavis.edu/bmr/PLNTLST.pdf . Accessed July 23, 2004. Hickman, J (ed.). 1993. The Jepson Manual: Higher plants of California. UC Press, Berkeley. Observational, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, 2004.	
Question 3.2 Distribution/Peak frequency	C Observational back
Describe distribution:	

Rationale: Invades 5-20% of coastal bluff scrub and coastal scrub.

Sources of information: Observational, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, John Randall, Alison Stanton, 2004.

Worksheet A

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Reaches reproductive maturity in 2 years or less	Yes: 1 pt
Dense infestations produce >1,000 viable seed per square meter	Yes: 2 pts
Populations of this species produce seeds every year.	Yes: 1 pt
Seed production sustained over 3 or more months within a population annually	Yes: 1 pt
Seeds remain viable in soil for three or more years	No: 0 pts
Viable seed produced with <i>both</i> self-pollination and cross-pollination	Unknown: 0 pts
Has quickly spreading vegetative structures (rhizomes, roots, etc.) that may root at nodes	Yes: 1 pt
Fragments easily and fragments can become established elsewhere	No: 0 pts
Resprouts readily when cut, grazed, or burned	Yes: 1 pt
	7 pts 1 unknown
	A (6+ pts)

Note any related traits: Shade tolerant, often (not always) found in moist areas, seeds throughout the rainy season or year-round if irrigated.

Worksheet C - California Ecological Types

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(*sensu* Holland 1986)

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