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 longiflora
Synonyms:	annual veldtgrass
Common names:	long-flowered veldtgrass
Evaluation date (mm/dd/yy)**:**	08/17/04
Evaluator #1 Name/Title:	Joseph M. DiTomaso/Extension Specialist
Affiliation:	University of California, Davis
Phone numbers:	530-754-8715
Email address:	ditomaso@vegmail.ucdavis.edu
Address:	Weed Science Program, Robbins Hall, Davis, CA 95616
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:	Alison Stanton, Cynthia Roye, Jake Sigg, Joe DiTomaso, Peter Warner, John Randall
Committee review date:	8/27/2004
List date:	enter text here
Re-evaluation date(s):	enter text here

General comments on this assessment:
The amount of information on the invasiveness and biology of this species is very limited.

Table 2. Criteria, Section, and Overall Scores

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

"Impact"

Enter four characters from Q1.1-1.4 below:

UBDD

Use matrix determine the score; enter below:

B

2.1	Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance	B	2	Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n
2.2	Local rate of spread with no management	A	3	Other Pub. Mat'l
2.3	Recent trend in total area infested within state	B	2	Other Pub. Mat'l
2.4	Innate reproductive potential Wksht A	C	1	Observational
2.5	Potential for human-caused dispersal	D	0	Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n
2.6	Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	C	1	Other Pub. Mat'l
2.7	Other regions invaded	B	2	Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n

"Invasiveness"

For questions at left, recall that an A gets 3 points, a B gets 2, a C gets 1, and a D or U gets=0. Enter the sum total of all points for Q2.1-2.7 below:

11

Use matrix to determine score and enter below:

B

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

"Distribution"

Use matrix determine the score; enter below:

C

"Plant Score"

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

Medium

Red Alert

Table 3. Documentation

Question 1.1 Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes U No Information back
Identify ecosystem processes impacted: Not widely distributed enough to know if it has any impact. Not really a widely dispersed weed anywhere in the world.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: enter text here
Question 1.2 Impact on plant community composition, structure, and interactions B Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify type of impact or alteration: In Torrey Pines State Preserve, San Diego, it is very thick on a trail and has now spread throughout the trail. Reported to have covered all but two of the sea dahlias that used to grow in great profusion under the Torrey pines. The Miner's lettuce is sparse due to the plant.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: Brey, C. 1996. What? Another Ehrharta? Oh no!! CalEPPC News. Spring, pgs. 4-5.
Question 1.3 Impact on higher trophic levels D Observational back
Identify type of impact or alteration: Does not appear to have any impact on tropic levels.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J.D. - observational
Question 1.4 Impact on genetic integrity D Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify impacts: There are no native Ehrharta species in California or the western US.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: Hickman, J.C. ed. 1993. The Jepson Manual. Higher Plants of California. UC Press, Berkeley
Question 2.1 Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance in establishment B Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n back
Describe role of disturbance: Considered a ruderal plant even in its native range. Probably requires disturbance to some degree, but was observed to move into undisturbed sites in Torrey Pines State Preserve.
Rationale: enter text here

Sources of information: Casasayas, I.F.T. and I.D.B.A. Farras. 1988. Ehrharta longiflora new record. A South African grass new for the Iberian Peninsula. Candollea 43(1):139-142.; Brey, C. 1996. What? Another Ehrharta? Oh no!! CalEPPC News. Spring, pgs. 4-5.
Question 2.2 Local rate of spread with no management A Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe rate of spread: Has spread rapidly at the Torrey Pines State Preserve.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: Brey, C. 1996. What? Another Ehrharta? Oh no!! CalEPPC News. Spring, pgs. 4-5.
Question 2.3 Recent trend in total area infested within state B Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe trend: It appears to have the potential to spread rapidly in coastal dune habitat, but has not moved to many other sites outside of the San Diego region.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J.M. and E.A. Healy. 2005. Weeds of California and Other Western States. Univ. Calif., Ag. Natural Res. (in press); DiTomaso, J.M.- observational
Question 2.4 Innate reproductive potential C Observational back
Describe key reproductive characteristics: No data on the biology of the plants, including the reproductive biology.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J.M. - observational
Question 2.5 Potential for human-caused dispersal D Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n back
Identify dispersal mechanisms: It may have been introduced through the nursery industry, but the grass is not sold in the US as an ornamental.
Rationale: enter text here
Sources of information: Casasayas, I.F.T. and I.D.B.A. Farras. 1988. Ehrharta longiflora new record. A South African grass new for the Iberian Peninsula. Candollea 43(1):139-142.; DiTomaso, J.M. - observational

Question 2.6 Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	C Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify dispersal mechanisms: No long distance dispersal by natural means. Many disperses by insects the awns may attach to some animals.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: Casasayas, I.F.T. and I.D.B.A. Farras. 1988. Ehrharta longiflora new record. A South African grass new for the Iberian Peninsula. Candollea 43(1):139-142; DiTomaso, J.M.- observational	
Question 2.7 Other regions invaded	B Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n back
Identify other regions: First reported on the Iberian Peninsula in Europe in 1988. Also reported rare in England and a few other locations in Europe, including Czechoslavakia. Reported to occur in riparian areas in its native range and in grasslands. Has not infested such areas in California, but may have the potential to do so.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: Casasayas, I.F.T. and I.D.B.A. Farras. 1988. Ehrharta longiflora new record. A South African grass new for the Iberian Peninsula. Candollea 43(1):139-142.	
Question 3.1 Ecological amplitude/Range	C Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe ecological amplitude, identifying date of source information and approximate date of introduction to the state, if known: Very recently introduced into California and the US. Not included in the Jepson Manual of 1993.Long-flowered veldtgrass inhabits some coastal areas of the South Coast, particularly near San Diego. Native to South Africa.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J.M. and E.A. Healy. 2005. Weeds of California and Other Western States. Univ. Calif., Ag. Natural Res. (in press); Casasayas, I.F.T. and I.D.B.A. Farras. 1988. Ehrharta longiflora new record. A South African grass new for the Iberian Peninsula. Candollea 43(1):139-142.	
Question 3.2 Distribution/Peak frequency	D Observational back
Describe distribution: Very uncommon and only in a couple of locations	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J.M. - observational	

Worksheet A

back

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

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*
Marine Systems	marine systems	**score**
Freshwater and Estuarine Aquatic Systems	lakes, ponds, reservoirs	**score**
	rivers, streams, canals	**score**
	estuaries	**score**
Dunes	coastal	**score**
	desert	**score**
	interior	**score**
Scrub and Chaparral	coastal bluff scrub	**D. presen**
	coastal scrub	**D. presen**
	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	**score**
	valley and foothill grassland	**score**
	Great Basin grassland	**score**
	vernal pool	**score**
	meadow and seep	**score**
	alkali playa	**score**
	pebble plain	**score**
Bog and Marsh	bog and fen	**score**
	marsh and swamp	**score**
Riparian and Bottomland	riparian forest	**score**
	riparian woodland	**score**
	riparian scrub (incl.desert washes)	**score**
Woodland	cismontane woodland	**score**
	piñon and juniper woodland	**score**
	Sonoran thorn woodland	**score**
Forest	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**
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).