

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

Species name (Latin binomial):	Hypochaeris glabra L.
Synonyms:	
Common names:	smooth catsear
Evaluation date (mm/dd/yy):	3/16/05
Evaluator #1 Name/Title:	Elizabeth Brusati, project manager
Affiliation:	California Invasive Plant Council
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Evaluator #2 Name/Title:	Joseph DiTomaso
Affiliation:	University of California-Davis
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Section below for list committee use—please leave blank

List committee members:	Carla Bossard, John Randall, Carri Piroso, Dan Gluesenkamp, Gina Skurka, Brianna Richardson
Committee review date:	7/8/05
List date:	enter text here
Re-evaluation date(s):	enter text here

General comments on this assessment:

enter text here

Table 2. Criteria, Section, and Overall Scores

1.1	Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	U	No Information
1.2	Impact on plant community	C	Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n
1.3	Impact on higher trophic levels	D	Other Pub. Mat'l
1.4	Impact on genetic integrity	D	Other Pub. Mat'l

<p>Impact</p> <p><i>Enter four characters from Q1.1-1.4 below:</i></p> <p>UCDD</p> <p><i>Using matrix, determine score and enter below:</i></p> <p>C</p>

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

<p>Invasiveness</p> <p><i>Enter the sum total of all points for Q2.1-2.7 below:</i></p> <p>11</p> <p><i>Use matrix to determine score and enter below:</i></p> <p>B</p>
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<p>Plant Score</p> <p><i>Using matrix, determine Overall Score and Alert Status from the three section scores and enter below:</i></p> <p>Low</p> <p>No Alert</p>
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3.1	Ecological amplitude/Range	A	Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n
3.2	Distribution/Peak frequency Wksht C	C	Observational

<p>Distribution</p> <p><i>Using matrix, determine score and enter below:</i></p> <p>B</p>

Table 3. Documentation

Question 1.1 Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	U No Information back
Identify ecosystem processes impacted: No information.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: enter text here	
Question 1.2 Impact on plant community composition, structure, and interactions	C Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n back
Identify type of impact or alteration: One of the exotic forbs that dominated a severely disturbed site in Southern California that did not revert back to native species even 70 years after disturbance ceased (1). However, mostly low impacts.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: 1. Stylinski, C. D. and E. B. Allen. 1999. Lack of native species recovery following severe exotic disturbance in southern Californian shrublands. <i>Journal of Applied Ecology</i> 36(4): 544-554 Joe DiTomaso, UC Davis; Peter Warner, California State Parks; Carri Piroosko, California Dept. of Food and Agriculture. pers. obs.	
Question 1.3 Impact on higher trophic levels	D Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify type of impact or alteration: Palatable to livestock.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. <i>Weeds of California</i> . UC DANR Publ. #3488.	
Question 1.4 Impact on genetic integrity	D Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify impacts: None	
Rationale: No native <i>Hypochaeris</i> species.	
Sources of information: Hickman, J. C. (ed.) 1993. <i>The Jepson Manual, Higher Plants of California</i> . University of California Press. Berkeley, CA enter text here	
Question 2.1 Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance in establishment	B Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n back
Describe role of disturbance: Inhabits disturbed places, fields, grasslands, pastures, roadsides. Undisturbed vegetation cover discourages catsear establishment and reproduction (1). However, occurred in higher frequency in unburned plots than burned plots in a Sierra Nevada grassland, probably because its small seeds lodged in the organic layer and were susceptible to fire (2). Was one of the dominant forbs on disturbed sites in a southern	

California grassland but was less common on undisturbed sites (3).	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: 1. DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. Weeds of California. UC DANR Publ. #3488. 2. York, D. 1997. A fire ecology study of a Sierra Nevada foothill basaltic mesa grassland. Madrono 44(4): 374-383 3. Stylinski, C. D. and E. B. Allen. 1999. Lack of native species recovery following severe exotic disturbance in southern Californian shrublands. Journal of Applied Ecology 36(4): 544-554.	
Question 2.2 Local rate of spread with no management	C Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe rate of spread: Can spread rapidly depending on the situation. Moves into areas with disturbance, such as grasslands following fire or in overgrazed areas. Will not compete well in healthy grasslands.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: 1. DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. Weeds of California. UC DANR Publ. #3488.	
Question 2.3 Recent trend in total area infested within state	C Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe trend: Present throughout California, so probably not spreading much.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: 1. DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. Weeds of California. UC DANR Publ. #3488.	
Question 2.4 Innate reproductive potential	B Other Pub. Mat'l back
Describe key reproductive characteristics: Annual. Flowers March to June. Reproduces by seed. Germination fall through spring.	
Rationale:	
Sources of information: DiTomaso, J., and E. Healy. in prep. Weeds of California and Other Western States.	
Question 2.5 Potential for human-caused dispersal	C Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify dispersal mechanisms: Can disperse with human activities, but this is probably very uncommon.	
Rationale: enter text here	

Sources of information: DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. Weeds of California. UC DANR Publ. #3488.	
Question 2.6 Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	B Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify dispersal mechanisms: Seeds disperse with wind and by clinging to the fur, feathers, and feet of animals.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. Weeds of California. UC DANR Publ. #3488.	
Question 2.7 Other regions invaded	C Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify other regions: Native to Europe. Present in Oregon, Washington, many southern states, and a few eastern states (1). Also in Texas (2).	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: 1. DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. Weeds of California. UC DANR Publ. #3488. 2. Diggs, G. M., Jr., R. J. O'Kennon, et al. 1997. Hypochaeris glabra (Asteraceae), a new record for Texas. Sida Contributions to Botany 17(13): 633-634.	
Question 3.1 Ecological amplitude/Range	A Rev'd, Sci. Pub'n back
Describe ecological amplitude, identifying date of source information and approximate date of introduction to the state, if known: Present throughout California except deserts and Great Basin, to 1200m. Inhabits disturbed places, fields, grasslands, pastures, roadsides (1). Occurs in coastal prairie (2), chaparral (3), and Sierra Nevada foothill grasslands (4). Smooth catsear often thrive on overgrazed pastures and rangeland.	
Rationale: enter text here	
Sources of information: 1. DiTomaso and Healy. 2006. Weeds of California. UC DANR Publ. #3488. 2. Marvier, M. A. 1998. Parasite impacts on host communities: Plant parasitism in a California coastal prairie. Ecology 79(8): 2616-2623. 3. Stylinski, C. D. and E. B. Allen. 1999. Lack of native species recovery following severe exotic disturbance in southern Californian shrublands. Journal of Applied Ecology 36(4): 544-554 4. York, D. 1997. A fire ecology study of a Sierra Nevada foothill basaltic mesa grassland. Madrono 44(4): 374-383.	
Question 3.2 Distribution/Peak frequency	C Observational back
Describe distribution: review committee members, personal observations.	
Rationale: enter text here	

Sources of information: same as 3.1

Worksheet A[back](#)

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	No: 0 pt
Seeds remain viable in soil for three or more years	Unknown: 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	No: 0 pt
Fragments easily and fragments can become established elsewhere	No: 0 pts
Resprouts readily when cut, grazed, or burned	No: 0 pt
	4 pts 2 unknowns
	B (4-5 pts)
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	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	D. presen
Grasslands, Vernal Pools, Meadows, and other Herb Communities	coastal prairie	D. presen
	valley and foothill grassland	D. presen
	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	C. 5-20%
	riparian scrub (incl. desert washes)	score
Woodland	cismontane woodland	C. 5-20%
	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).