

Amendments To Legislation Of Declared Weeds And Invader Plants In South Africa

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Modified for distribution in KNP, with permission of Ms Henderson,
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NB The amendments outlined here were approved by the Minister of Agriculture on 8 March 2001. The amendments will come into effect when they have been published in the Government Gazette (expected on 30 March 2001).

Introduction

The Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act 43 of 1983) was amended in 2001.

The Act is administered by the National Department of Agriculture, Directorate Agricultural Land and Resource Management (DLRM).

Regulations 15 and 16, and lists of declared weeds and invader plants were revised and amended through a process of public participation which started in 1997 and culminated in 2000.

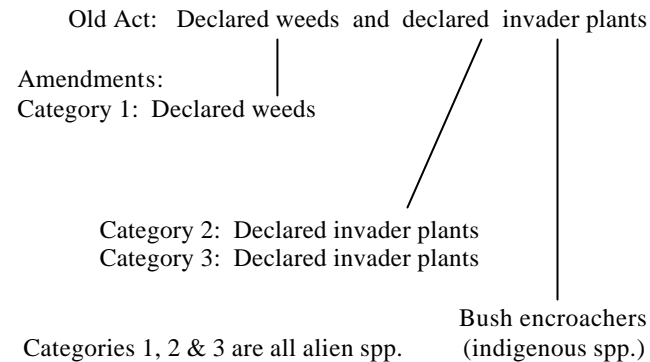
Why were amendments necessary?

Since 1983 many more plant spp. have become invasive and problematic,

In 1996 South Africa became a signatory to the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) and undertakes to “prevent the introduction of, control or eradicate those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats and species” (Article 8(h)). As an organisation dedicated to Biodiversity Conservation, adhering to these regulations should be of primary concern.

To support the Working For Water (WFW) programme, South Africa’s largest alien plant clearing programme, started in 1995 and administered by the SA Department of Water Affairs and Forestry.

Amendments



Category 1: Prohibited plants which must be controlled, or eradicated where possible (except in biocontrol reserves, which are areas designated for the breeding of biocontrol agents)

Category 2: Mainly commercial plantation spp. but also plants for woodlots, animal fodder, soil stabilisation etc.; allowed only in demarcated areas (by permit) under controlled conditions and in biocontrol reserves

Category 3: Mainly ornamental spp., no further planting allowed (except with special written permission), nor trade in propagative material. Existing plants may *remain but **must be prevented from spreading.** (* **except those within the floodline of watercourses or wetlands or as directed by the executive officer**)

Bush encroachers: indigenous woody spp. which require sound management practices to prevent them from becoming a problem.

Important additions to the Regulations include:

- 1) A water use tax on plantations of Category 2 plants,
- 2) Prohibition of Category *2 & 3 plants within 30 m of the 1:50 year floodline of watercourses or wetlands (*unless written authorisation obtained),
- 3) Category 1, 2 & 3 plants may occur within biocontrol reserves (areas designated for breeding biocontrol agents)

*	<i>Cereus jamacaru</i> (<i>C. peruvianus</i> misapplied), queen of the night	1	
*	<i>Cestrum aurantiacum</i> , orange cestrum	1	
*	<i>Cestrum elegans</i> (= <i>C. purpureum</i>), crimson cestrum	1	
*	<i>Cestrum laevigatum</i> , inkberry	1	
*	<i>Cestrum parqui</i> , Chilean cestrum	1	
*	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i> , trifid weed	1	
*	<i>Cinnamomum camphorum</i> , camphor tree	1	KZN, N Prov, Mpumalanga
*	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , spear thistle or Scotch thistle	1	
*	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> , field bindweed	1	
*	<i>Cortaderia jubata</i> , purple Pampas grass	1	
*	<i>Cortaderia selloana</i> excluding sterile cultivars, Pampas grass	1	
	<i>Cotoneaster franchetii</i> , orange cotoneaster	3	
	<i>Cotoneaster pannosus</i> , silver-leaf cotoneaster	3	
*	<i>Cuscuta campestris</i> , common dodder	1	
*	<i>Cuscuta suaveolens</i> , lucerne dodder	1	
	<i>Cytisus monspessulanus</i> (= <i>Genista monspessulana</i>), Montpellier broom	1	
	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> (= <i>Genista scoparia</i>), Scotch broom	1	
*	<i>Datura ferox</i> , large thorn apple	1	
*	<i>Datura innoxia</i> , downy thorn apple	1	
*	<i>Datura stramonium</i> , common thorn apple	1	
*	<i>Echinopsis spachiana</i> (= <i>Trichocereus spachianus</i>), torch cactus	1	
*	<i>Echium plantagineum</i> (= <i>E. lycopsis</i>), Patterson's curse	1	
*	<i>Echium vulgare</i> , blue echium	1	
	<i>Egeria densa</i> (= <i>Elodea densa</i>), dense water weed	1	
*	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i> , water hyacinth	1	
	<i>Elodea canadensis</i> , Canadian water weed	1	
*	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> , loquat	3	
	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> , red river gum	2	
	<i>Eucalyptus cladocalyx</i> , sugar gum	2	
	<i>Eucalyptus diversicolor</i> , karri	2	
	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i> , saligna gum	2	
	<i>Eucalyptus lehmannii</i> , spider gum	1	W Cape
	<i>Eucalyptus lehmannii</i> , spider gum	2	Rest of SA

	<i>Eucalyptus paniculata</i> , grey ironbark	2	
	<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i> , black ironbark	2	
	<i>Eugenia uniflora</i> , pitanga	1	KZN, N Prov, Mpumalanga
	<i>Eugenia uniflora</i> , pitanga	3	Rest of SA
	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> , excluding sterile cultivars, honey locust	2	
*	<i>Grevillea robusta</i> , Australian silky oak	3	
	<i>Hakea drupacea</i> (= <i>H. suaveolens</i>), sweet hakea	1	
	<i>Hakea gibbosa</i> , rock hakea	1	
	<i>Hakea sericea</i> , silky hakea	1	
*	<i>Harrisia martinii</i> , harrisia cactus	1	
*	<i>Hedychium coccineum</i> , red ginger lily	1	
*	<i>Hedychium coronarium</i> , white ginger lily	1	
*	<i>Hedychium flavescens</i> , yellow ginger lily	1	
*	<i>Hedychium gardnerianum</i> , kahili ginger lily	1	
	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> , St. John's wort	2	
*	<i>Ipomoea alba</i> , moonflower	1	KZN, N Prov, Mpumalanga
*	<i>Ipomoea alba</i> , moonflower	3	Rest of SA
*	<i>Ipomoea indica</i> (= <i>I. congesta</i>), perennial morning glory	1	KZN, N Prov, Mpumalanga
*	<i>Ipomoea indica</i> (= <i>I. congesta</i>), perennial morning glory	3	Rest of SA
*	<i>Ipomoea purpurea</i> , annual morning glory	3	
*	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> excluding sterile cultivar 'Alba', jacaranda	3	
*	<i>Lantana</i> spp. or hybrids that are seed producing and non-indigenous to Africa, lantana	1	
	<i>Lepidium draba</i> (= <i>Cardaria draba</i>), pepper-cress	1	
*	<i>Leptospermum laevigatum</i> , Australian myrtle	1	
*	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> , leucaena	1	W Cape
*	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> , leucaena	2	Rest of SA
*	<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i> , Japanese wax-leaved privet	3	
*	<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> , Chinese wax-leaved privet	3	only for use as root-stock by valid permit holders
*	<i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> , Californian privet	3	
*	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> , Chinese privet	3	
*	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> , common privet	3	

	<i>Lilium formosanum</i> (= <i>L. longiflorum</i> var. <i>formosanum</i>) (sometimes misapplied as <i>L. longiflorum</i>), Formosa lily, St Joseph's lily	3	
*	<i>Litsea glutinosa</i> (= <i>L. sebifera</i>), Indian laurel	1	
	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i> , purple loosestrife	1	
*	<i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i> , cat's claw creeper	1	
*	<i>Melia azedarach</i> , 'syringa', Persian lilac	3	
	<i>Metrosideros excelsa</i> (= <i>M. tomentosa</i>), New Zealand Christmas tree	3	
*	<i>Mimosa pigra</i> , giant sensitive plant	3	
	<i>Montanoa hibiscifolia</i> , tree daisy	1	
*	<i>Morus alba</i> excluding cultivar 'Pendula', common mulberry	3	only for use as root-stock by valid permit holders
	<i>Myoporum tenuifolium</i> subsp. <i>montanum</i> (= <i>M. montanum</i>)(<i>M. acuminatum</i> misapplied), manatoka	3	
*	<i>Muriophyllum aquaticum</i> , parrot's feather	1	
	<i>Muriophyllum spicatum</i> , spiked water-milfoil	1	
*	<i>Nassella tenuissima</i> (= <i>Stipa tenuissima</i>), white tussock	1	
*	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i> (= <i>Stipa trichotoma</i>), nassella tussock	1	
*	<i>Nephrolepis exaltata</i> excluding cultivars, sword fern	3	
*	<i>Nerium oleander</i> excluding sterile double-flowered cultivars, oleander	1	
*	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i> , wild tobacco	1	
*	<i>Opuntia aurantiaca</i> , jointed cactus	1	
*	<i>Opuntia exaltata</i> , long spine cactus	1	
*	<i>Opuntia ficus-indica</i> excluding spineless cultivars, sweet prickly pear	1	
*	<i>Opuntia fulgida</i> (<i>O. rosea</i> misapplied), 'rosea' cactus	1	
*	<i>Opuntia humifusa</i> (<i>O. compressa</i> illegitimate), creeping prickly pear	1	
*	<i>Opuntia imbricata</i> , imbricate cactus	1	
*	<i>Opuntia lindheimeri</i> , small round-leaved prickly pear	1	
*	<i>Opuntia monacantha</i> (<i>O. vulgaris</i> misapplied), cochineal prickly pear	1	
*	<i>Opuntia spinulifera</i> , saucepan cactus	1	

*	<i>Opuntia stricta</i> (= <i>O. dillennii</i>), Australian pest pear	1	
	<i>Orobanche minor</i> , lesser broomrape	1	
*	<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i> (= <i>Albizia lophantha</i>), stink bean	1	
*	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i> , parthenium	1	
*	<i>Passiflora caerulea</i> , blue passion flower	1	
*	<i>Passiflora mollissima</i> , banana poka	1	
*	<i>Passiflora suberosa</i> , devil's pumpkin	1	
*	<i>Passiflora subpeltata</i> , granadina	1	
	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> excluding sterile cultivar 'Rubrum', fountain grass	1	
	<i>Pennisetum villosum</i> , feathertop	1	
*	<i>Pereskia aculeata</i> , pereskia	1	
	<i>Phytolacca dioica</i> , belhambra	3	
	<i>Pinus canariensis</i> , Canary pine	2	
	<i>Pinus elliottii</i> , slash pine	2	
	<i>Pinus halepensis</i> , Aleppo pine	2	
	<i>Pinus patula</i> , patula pine	2	
	<i>Pinus pinaster</i> , cluster pine	2	
	<i>Pinus radiata</i> , radiata or Monterey pine	2	
	<i>Pinus roxburghii</i> (= <i>P. longifolia</i>), chir pine or longifolia pine	2	
	<i>Pinus taeda</i> , loblolly pine	2	
*	<i>Pistia stratiotes</i> , water lettuce	1	
	<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> , sweet pittosporum	1	
	<i>Plectranthus barbatus</i> (= <i>Coleus grandis</i>), (<i>P. comosus</i> misapplied), woolly plectranthus, 'Abyssinian coleus'	3	
*	<i>Pontederia cordata</i> , pickerel weed	3	
	<i>Populus alba</i> , white poplar	2	
	<i>Populus X canescens</i> , grey poplar	2	
	<i>Prosopis glandulosa</i> var. <i>torreyana</i> and hybrids, honey mesquite	2	
	<i>Prosopis velutina</i> and hybrids, velvet mesquite	2	
*	<i>Psidium cattleianum</i> (= <i>P. littorale</i> var. <i>longipes</i>), strawberry guava	3	
*	<i>Psidium X durbanensis</i> , Durban guava	1	
*	<i>Psidium guajava</i> and hybrids, guava	2	
*	<i>Psidium guineense</i> , Brazilian guava	3	
	<i>Pueraria lobata</i> , Kudzu vine	1	

*	<i>Pyracantha angustifolia</i> excluding cultivars, yellow firethorn	3	
*	<i>Pyracantha crenulata</i> , Himalayan or red firethorn	3	
	<i>Rhus succedanea</i> (= <i>Toxicodendron succedaneum</i>), wax tree	1	
*	<i>Ricinus communis</i> , castor-oil plant	2	
	<i>Rivina humilis</i> , bloodberry	1	
	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> , black locust	2	only for use as root-stock by valid permit holders
	<i>Rorippa nasturtium-aquaticum</i> (= <i>Nasturtium officinale</i>), watercress	2	
*	<i>Rosa rubiginosa</i> (= <i>R. eglanteria</i>), sweetbriar	1	
	<i>Rubus cuneifolius</i> , American bramble, and hybrid <i>R. X proteus</i>	1	
*	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg., European blackberry	2	
	<i>Salix babylonica</i> , weeping willow (not to be confused with the indigenous <i>S. mucronata</i> (= <i>S. capensis</i> , <i>S. subserrata</i> , <i>S. wooddii</i>))	2	
	<i>Salix fragilis</i> , crack willow (not to be confused with the indigenous <i>S. mucronata</i>)	2	
*	<i>Salvinia molesta</i> , Kariba weed, and other species of the Family Salviniaceae	1	
*	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i> , Brazilian pepper tree	1	KZN, N Prov, Mpumalanga
	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i> , Brazilian pepper tree	3	Rest of SA
*	<i>Senna bicapsularis</i> (= <i>Cassia bicapsularis</i>), rambling cassia	3	
*	<i>Senna didymobotrya</i> (= <i>Cassia didymobotrya</i>), peanut butter cassia	3	
*	<i>Senna pendula</i> var. <i>glabrata</i> (= <i>Cassia coluteoides</i>)	3	
*	<i>Sesbania punicea</i> , red sesbania	1	

*	<i>Solanum elaeagnifolium</i> , silver-leaf bitter apple	1	
*	<i>Solanum mauritianum</i> , bugweed	1	
*	<i>Solanum seafortianum</i> , potato creeper	1	
*	<i>Solanum sisymbriifolium</i> , dense-thorned bitter apple	1	
	<i>Sorghum halepense</i> , Johnson or Aleppo grass	2	
	<i>Spartium junceum</i> , Spanish broom	1	
*	<i>Syzygium cumini</i> , Jambolan	3	
*	<i>Syzygium jambos</i> , rose apple	3	
	<i>Tamarix chinensis</i> , Chinese tamarisk	1	W, N, & E Cape
	<i>Tamarix chinensis</i> , Chinese tamarisk	3	Rest of SA
	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i> , pink tamarisk	1	W, N & E Cape
	<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i> , pink tamarisk	3	Rest of SA
*	<i>Tecoma stans</i> , yellow bells	1	
*	<i>Thelechitonia trilobata</i> (= <i>Wedelia trilobata</i>), Singapore daisy	1	KZN
*	<i>Thelechitonia trilobata</i> (= <i>Wedelia trilobata</i>), Singapore daisy	3	Rest of SA
*	<i>Thevetia peruviana</i> (= <i>T. neriifolia</i>), yellow oleander	1	
*	<i>Tipuana tipu</i> (= <i>T. speciosa</i>), tipu tree	3	
*	<i>Tithonia diversifolia</i> , Mexican sunflower	1	
*	<i>Tithonia rotundifolia</i> , red sunflower	1	
*	<i>Toona ciliata</i> (= <i>Cedrela toona</i>), toon tree	3	
	<i>Triplaris americana</i> , triplaris	1	
	<i>Ulex europaeus</i> , European gorse	1	
*	<i>Xanthium spinosum</i> , spiny cocklebur	1	
*	<i>Xanthium strumarium</i> , large cocklebur	1	

* Species of special importance to the KNP.

Summary of changes to list of declared weeds and invader plants

The number of declared weeds and alien invader plants (Categories 1-3) has increased from 56 to 198 spp.

Cannabis sativa (dagga) has been removed as it is covered by the Narcotics Act.

Lemna spp. (duck weeds) have been removed as they are not regarded as alien but cosmopolitan (world-wide spp.).

Acacia dealbata (silver wattle) has been upgraded to a declared weed in the W Cape.

Acacia longifolia (long-leaved wattle), *A. pycnantha* (golden wattle) & *Leptospermum laevigatum* (Australian myrtle) have been upgraded to declared weeds.

Hypericum perforatum (St John's Wort) has been downgraded from a declared weed to declared invader (Category 2) because of its commercial value as a medicinal crop plant.

Several spp. have name changes eg. *Opuntia fulgida* (previously *O. rosea* misapplied).

Expansions of definitions: *Rubus cuneifolius* to include the hybrid *R. X proteus* and *Lantana camara* complex expanded to all seed-producing *Lantana* spp. and hybrids not indigenous to Africa.

More specific listing of spp. eg. *Eichhornia crassipes* instead of *Eichhornia* spp. and other plants of the Pontederiaceae.

Conclusions

Amendments to legislation of declared weeds and invader plants reflect a tough stance against plant spp. that are harmful to human welfare and the environment in South Africa.

The amended legislation is aimed at the long term management and prevention of invasions and the 'polluter pays principle' where importers and growers of invader plants will have to pay for the cost of control and water use of their plants.