

Environmental weed risk assessment

French serradella (*Ornithopus sativus*)

French serradella (pink serradella) is a temperate annual pasture legume native to the Mediterranean region. It is widely sown in south-western Australia as a break crop in a cereal cropping rotation.

In experimental trials in northern Western Australia (WA) the annual legumes and herbs had good feed quality but in general, with low forage yields under irrigation, are unlikely to be economically viable (Moore et al. 2021).

Weed lists

National-international:

- Not listed in Weeds of Australia (398 weed species) <https://weeds.org.au/weeds-profiles/>
- Not listed on the Weeds of Australia website [Fact sheet Index \(lucidcentral.org\)](https://www.lucidcentral.org/fact-sheet-index/)
- In the Global Compendium of Weeds, French serradella is listed as an agricultural weed, casual alien, cultivation escape, environmental weed, naturalised, weed (Randall 2017).

Western Australia:

- "...It has been recorded as naturalised at Cataby, Perth, Dardanup and Esperance" (Hussey et al. 2007).
- Recorded as naturalised in the following IBRA Regions of WA: Geraldton sandplains, Swan coastal plain, Jarrah forest and Esperance (Keighery and Longman 2004).
- Not listed in Naturalised taxa recorded from conservation lands in Western Australia (Keighery 1991).



Figure 1. Distribution of French serradella (*Ornithopus sativus*) in Australia (Source: 'The Australasian Virtual Herbarium')

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Assessed using the 'Environmental weed risk assessment protocol for growing non-indigenous plants in the Western Australian rangelands' (Moore et al. 2022)

| Region | Filter A | Filter B | Weed Risk Assessment rating |
|------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| | Is the species a weed in similar environments in Australia or overseas? | Is the species likely to persist in the environment without management*? | |
| Kimberley | No | No | Negligible to low |
| Pilbara | No | No | Negligible to low |
| Gascoyne – Goldfields | No | No | Negligible to low |
| Agricultural area | No | No | Negligible to low |

*Without management means no fertiliser, Rhizobia, irrigation, grazing management or control of competition from other species

References

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- Keighery G, Longman V (2004) The naturalized vascular plants of Western Australia 1: Checklist, environmental weeds and distribution in IBRA regions. *Plant Protection Quarterly*, **19(1)**: 12-32.
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- Moore G, Munday C, Barua P (2022) 'Environmental weed risk assessment protocol for growing non-indigenous plants in the Western Australian rangelands', Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, *Bulletin no. 4924*, Perth.
- Randall RP (2017) 'Global compendium of weeds' (No. Ed. 3).
- Weeds of Australia database
https://keyserver.lucidcentral.org/weeds/data/media/Html/trifolium_repens.htm Site accessed 30 November 2021

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