

Environmental weed risk assessment

Faba beans (*Vicia faba*)

Faba beans are a winter growing pulse (legume) crop which are adapted to well-drained medium- to fine-textured soils with a neutral to alkaline pH. In Western Australia (WA), faba beans is a niche crop and production is currently around 6,000 tonnes. *Vicia faba* minor is grown under broadscale farming conditions in WA. Australia is the world's leading exporter of faba bean.

Faba beans could be grown in northern WA over the dry season under irrigation, but to date there is limited yield data.

Weed lists

National-international:

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

Western Australia:

- Not listed in Western weeds. A guide to the weeds of Western Australia (Hussey et al. 2007).
- Not listed in Keighery and Longman (2004).
- Not listed in Environmental weeds of Western Australia (Keighery 1991).



Figure 1 Distribution of faba beans (*Vicia faba*) 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	Yes	Yes	TBD

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

References

- Hussey BMJ, Keighery GJ, Dodd J, Lloyd SG, Cousens RD (2007) 'Western weeds. A guide to the weeds of Western Australia'. Second Edition. The Weeds Society of Western Australia Inc.
- Keighery GJ (1991) Environmental weeds of Western Australia. *Kowari*, **2**: 180-188.
- 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.
- 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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