

Biological Control of Weeds Recovery Sheet

(Please refer to the back of this sheet for instructions)



Manaaki Whenua
Landcare Research

Site name:
Organisation:
Observer(s):

Date:
Time of day:

Current weather conditions

- 1) Sunny / Partly / Overcast / Rain
- 2) Strong wind / Light wind / Calm
- 3) Temperature (°C) < 10 / 10-15 / 15 -20/ 20 -25 / >25

Insect information

- 4) Number of colonies found:
- 5) Time spent searching (mins):
- 6) Furthest distance insect found from release point (m):

None Found / <20 / 20-50 / 50-100 / 100-300 / 300-500 / Further?

- 7) Most common size: Small / Medium / Large

Weed Information

- 8) Most obvious life stage: Old Growth / New Growth / Flowers / Seeding
- 9) Gorse type at the release point: Isolated Bushes / Clumps / Block
- 10) Infestation: Major (as far as eye can see) / Moderate (>100m²) / Minor (<100m²)
- 11) Percentage cover at densest accessible point:
- 12) Photos taken: Yes / No
- 13) Photo compass bearing:
- 14) GPS for photopoint:
- 15) Photo file name:

Comments

- 16) Have any of the following happened to the site recently?

Mowing / Spraying / Grazing / Flood / Drought / Fire / Other?

- 17) Please use the back of this sheet to record any further observations or comments about the site, including any checks for non-target damage.



**Gorse Spider
Mite**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT THIS SHEET

(Please note that it is important to complete these questions in order)

Where choices are given mark the correct answer by bolding or highlighting it or by deleting the other options.

- **Site Name** – please be consistent in the use of site names to prevent confusion.
- **Organisation** – the name of your organisation.
- **Observer(s)** – the names of people who helped with this recovery not onlookers.

Current Weather Conditions

1-3) Choose the words that best describe the weather conditions.

Insect information

- 4) Colonies can be found year-round but are easiest to find during warmer months The webbing is destroyed by rain, so it is most obvious after warm, dry weather. Look for fine white webs that may be as small as a fist or large enough to cover several bushes. Look inside the webs for tiny, brick red coloured mites.
- 5) Record how long you spent actively searching.
- 6) If you have time to look further afield, we would like to know how far away from the release point you can find webs.
- 7) Record the most common colony size (small is less than 100 mites, medium is 100-1000 mites, large is more than 1000 mites).

Weed Information

- 8) Record the most obvious life stage.
- 9) Record the type of gorse growing at the release point.
- 10) Estimate and record the approximate size of the infestation using the categories provided.
- 11) Estimate the percentage cover of gorse at the densest accessible point over an area of 5 x 5m, or if the site lend itself to a square use an equivalent sized shape.
- 12) Please indicate if you have taken photos.
- 13-15) If you have taken photos please record the photo compass bearing, the GPS point, the file name for the photo and attach hard copies to this form if you can.

Comments

- 16) Please indicate if any of these important events have happened to the site.
- 17) Tell us any other important information we should know about the site (e.g. whether you have been harvesting for release at new sites). Use the top of this page if you need extra space.