

# 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 samples beaten:
- 5) Number of thrips found:
- 6) Furthest distance insect found from release point (m):

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

## **Weed Information**

- 7) Most obvious life stage: Old Growth / New Growth / Flowers / Seeding
- 8) Gorse type at the release point: Isolated Bushes / Clumps / Block
- 9) Infestation: Major (as far as eye can see) / Moderate (>100m<sup>2</sup>) / Minor (<100m<sup>2</sup>)
- 10) Percentage cover at densest accessible point:
- 11) Photos taken: Yes / No
- 12) Photo compass bearing:
- 13) GPS for photopoint:
- 14) Photo file name:

## **Comments**

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

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

- 16) Please use the back of this sheet to record any further observations or comments about the site.



**Gorse Thrips**

## **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**

- 4-5) There are two ways to find tiny thrips (1-2 mm long). You may be able to see them by eye on new growth. Otherwise, you will need to beat a sample of gorse foliage (about an armful) with a stout stick over a white sheet, piece of card or tray. To avoid confusing gorse thrips with flower thrips it is best to look for them in January and February when flowering has finished. Gorse thrips are black, diamond-shaped, and they tend to jump about on a warm day. Flower thrips are larger, thinner and winged.
- 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.

### **Weed Information**

- 7) Record the most obvious life stage.
- 8) Record the type of gorse growing at the release point.
- 9) Estimate and record the approximate size of the infestation using the categories provided.
- 10) 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.
- 11) Please indicate if you have taken photos.
- 12-14) 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**

- 15) Please indicate if any of these important events have happened to the site.
- 16) 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.