

Biological Control of Weeds Recovery Sheet

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



Site name:
Organisation:
Observer(s):

Date:
Time of day:



**Field Horsetail
Weevil**

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: Adults:
- 5) Time spent searching (mins):
- 6) Furthest distance insect or damage found from release point (m):
None Found / <20 / 20-50 / 50-100 / 100-300 / 300-500 / Further?
- 7) Overall damage to foliage: None / Occasional / Patchy / Heavy / Severe

Weed Information

- 8) Most obvious life stage:
New stems / Mature stems / Reproductive stems producing spores / Dying back
- 9) Field horsetail 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.

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) Adults may be seen on warm days, particularly between October and February, sitting near the ends of stems. They are shy and drop when disturbed so don't worry if you don't see any/many. Look for damage as well/instead.
- 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 adults or damage.
- 7) Record the amount of feeding damage seen overall at the site: Look for black or brown lesions with a central hole on the stems. After some time, the stem above the lesion will start to wilt, become paler and collapse. occasional (signs of damage present but not common), patchy (signs of damage are present but are variable throughout the site, some plants may have no damage, and others may have heavy damage but this would be rare), heavy (the majority of plants are showing signs of damage and at least some plants are beginning to show signs of severe defoliation/damage or stress), and severe (severe damage is obvious and widespread).

Weed Information

- 8) Record the most obvious life stage.
- 9) Record the type of field horsetail 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 field horsetail at the densest accessible point over an area of 5 x 5m, or if the site doesn't 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.)