

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 flies seen:
- 5) Furthest distance fly found from release point (m):
None Found / <20 / 20-50 / 50-100 / 100-300 / 300-500 / Further?
- 6) Number of galled flowerheads found:
- 7) Furthest distance galls found from release point (m):
None Found / <20 / 20-50 / 50-100 / 100-300 / 300-500 / Further?
- 8) Time spent searching (mins):



**Nodding Thistle
Gall Fly**

Weed Information

- 9) Most of the thistles are: Rosettes / Bolting / Flowering / Seeding
- 10) Thistles density at the release point: Isolated patches / Widespread
- 11) Number of thistle stems/m²: <1 / 1-5 / 5-10 / >10?
- 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.

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) Adult flies may be seen on or around flowerheads (from green stage to full flower) from October to April. They are small (5-8mm) and have distinctive black stripes on their wings.
- 5) If you have time to look further afield, we would like to know how far away from the release point you can find flies.
- 6) Galled flowerheads may be found from December to May. They are obvious by the silky white appearance of the pappus hairs that remain attached to the flower receptacle. The flowerhead, if squeezed between thumb and forefinger, feels hard and lumpy and is almost impossible to break open.
- 7) If you have time to look further afield, we would like to know how far away from the release point you can find galls.
- 8) Record how long you spent actively searching.

Weed Information

- 9) Record the most obvious life stage.
- 10) Do the thistles at the site occur in discrete patches or do they cover the entire area?
- 11) Estimate the density of thistle stems in the 50 m surrounding the release point.
- 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 the beetles for release at new sites). Use the top of this page if you need extra space.