

Managing Future Weeds Survey

Summary of Findings

Background

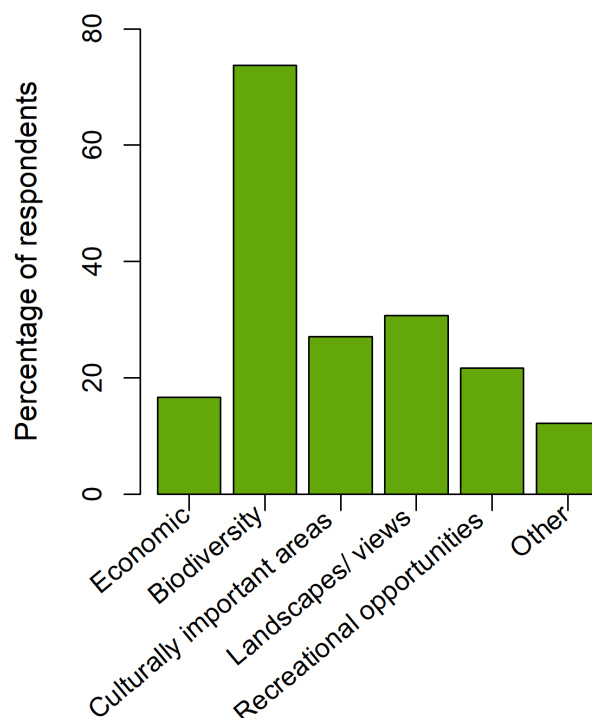
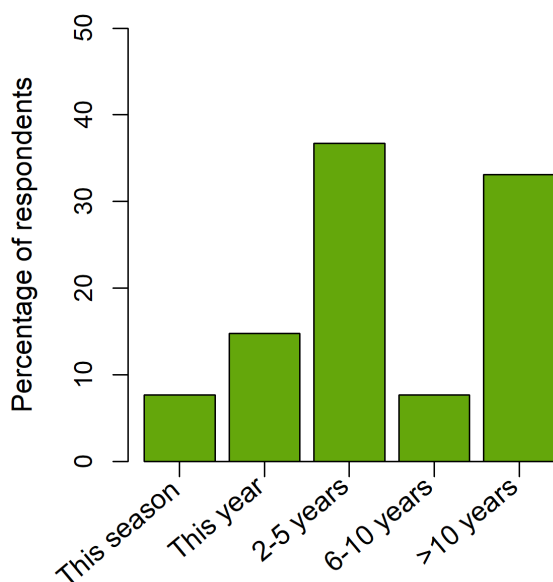
From 13 Nov – 22 December 2023, Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research ran a survey* to better understand which research tools and outputs could support more proactive management of weeds. This survey was open to anyone, and we invited those we knew were interested in weed management, planning or policy to complete the survey.

Survey participants

We received 221 responses. Many participants work in regional or district council operations or are volunteers with a community group (19% and 23% of the survey respondents, respectively). Most participants (92%) said that they are directly involved in managing weeds.

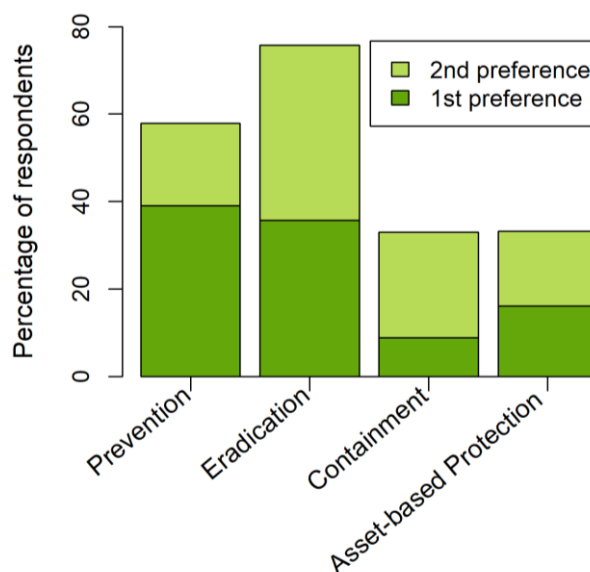
Results

Most respondents said that they plan for weed management over the long-term, either 2-5 years in advance (37%) or more than 10 years in advance (33%).



Most survey respondents said that **'Protecting biodiversity' was the most common long-term management goal** (74% of respondents), followed by 'Protecting landscapes/views' (31% of respondents).

Weed managers would like more research tools in the Prevention and Eradication invasion stages (39% and 36%, respectively).

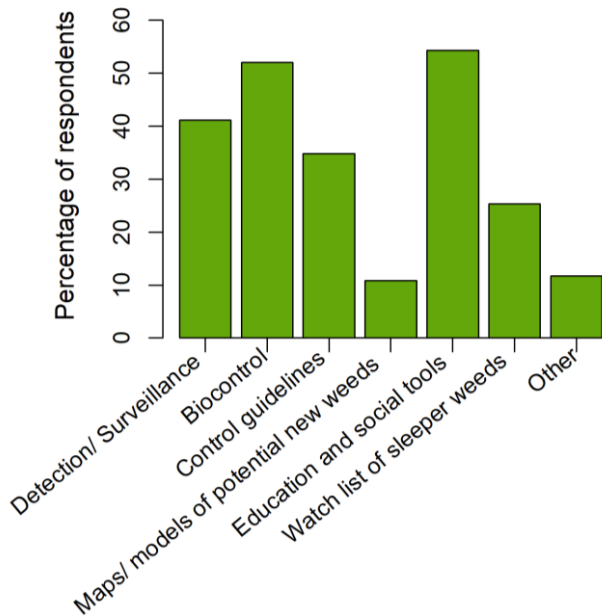


*Social ethics application number 2324/22

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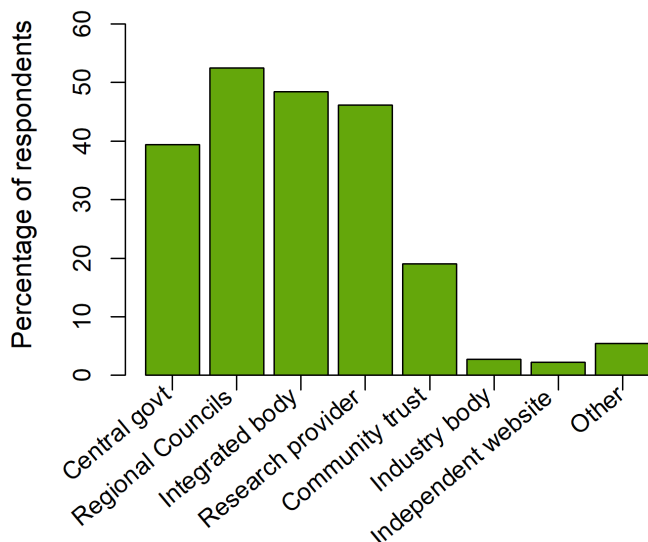
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Educational tools, biocontrol, and detection and surveillance all ranked highly as tools needed in the future to improve weed management.



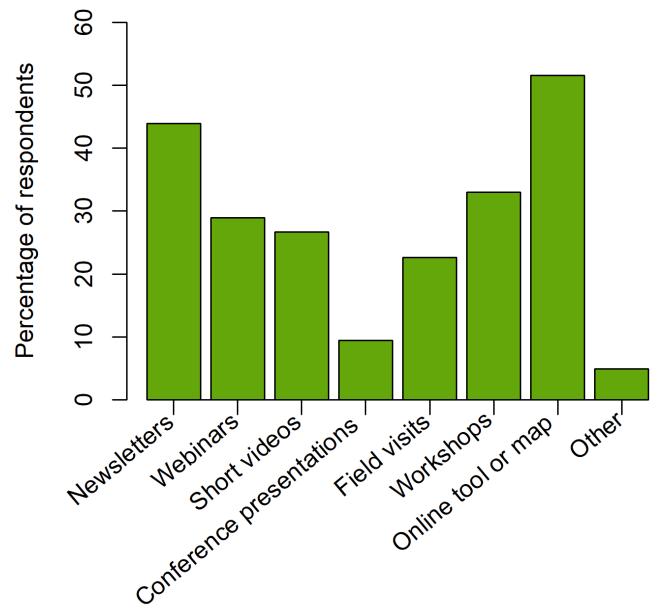
More than half of respondents prioritised 'Education and social tools: Approaches to educate and better motivate the public on weeds' (54% of votes). Other tools such as 'Biocontrol' (52%) and 'Detection and Surveillance strategies' (41%) were strongly supported. The least selected tool was 'Maps or models of weeds which might arrive next' (11%).

Respondents prefer to receive information from regional councils, an integrated body such as Weedbusters, research providers such as CRIs, and central government agencies.



The top four preferred sources for information were: Regional Councils (52%); an Integrated national body such as Weedbusters (48%); Research providers such as Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research and AgResearch (46%); and Central government agencies such as MPI and DOC (39%).

Online tools or maps and newsletters were preferred formats for information.



The top two preferred formats for information were an Online tool or map (52%) and Newsletters (44%). The least preferred format for receiving information was via Conference presentations (10%).

Have questions or want to receive updates on our research? Please contact Rowan Sprague at SpragueRo@landcareresearch.co.nz.