GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: ***Dichrostachys cinerea***

Dichrostachys cinerea 简体中文 正體中文

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Fabales	Fabaceae

Common name sickle bush (English, South Africa), Kalahari-Weihnachtsbaum (German), el marabu (English, Cuba)

Synonym

Similar species

Summary Dichrostachys cinerea is a thorny, fast-growing woody bush or treelet which invades fields, wasteland, road sides and other disturbed areas. Originaly from from Africa, it has been introduced to the West Indies during the 19th century. Adult plants live a very long time, producing seeds which survive for a long time in the soil almost all year long. D. cinerea causes losses in agricultural production and its management involves frequent, heavy and expensive work.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Species Description
Bush or treelet 1.5-6m high. Branches bearing short, thorn-ended twigs. Leaves bipinnate, 3-10cm long, with 5-10 pairs of pinnae, each one with 10-30 pairs of folioles 3-6mm long. Spikes 3-8cm long, upper florets sulphur-yellox or yellow, the basal ones neutral, with long lilac-pink staminodes. Pods crowded, glomerate, ondulate and contorted, dark brown. Seeds obovate, dark brown, 4mm long.

Lifecycle Stages
Seeds survive long in the soil. The growth of the plants is very fast. Young plants may produce seeds. Adult plants can survive a very long time, producing seeds almost all year long.

Reproduction
Seeds, root cuttings, root suckering.
Each plant produces a large number of seeds per year, almost all year long.

General Impacts
Causes losses in agricultural production. Management involves frequent, heavy and expensive work.

Management Info
Preventative measures: A Risk Assessment of *Dichrostachys cinerea* for Hawai'i and other Pacific islands was prepared by Dr. Curtis Daehler (UH Botany) with funding from the Kaulunani Urban Forestry Program and US Forest Service. The alien plant screening system is derived from Pheloung *et al*. (1999) with minor modifications for use in Pacific islands (Daehler *et al.* 2004). The result is a score of 16 and a recommendation of: \"Likely to cause significant ecological or economic harm in Hawai'i and on other Pacific Islands as determined by a high WRA score, which is based on published sources describing species biology and behaviour in Hawai'i and/or other parts of the world.\"
\r\nPhysical: Cutting and burning of the plants is not a very efficient control method, since the seeds survive in the soil, and the growth is very fast.
\r\nChemical: Use of dangerous herbicides is often necessary.

Principal source:

Compiler: J. Fournet, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Guadeloupe & IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Review: J. Fournet, Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Guadeloupe.

Pubblication date: 2005-04-13

ALIEN RANGE

[1] CUBA
[1] JAMAICA
[1] MARTINIQUE
[1] MAYOTTE
[1] REUNION

Red List assessed species 3: EN = 1; VU = 2;

Peltophryne cataulaciceps **EN**
Peltophryne empusa **VU**
Peltophryne gundlachi **VU**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Managment information
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Summary: A study on the use of a screening system to assess proposed plant introductions to Hawaii or other Pacific Islands and to identify high-risk species used in horticulture and forestry which would greatly reduce future pest-plant problems and allow entry of most nonpests.
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Summary: Ecology, synonyms, common names, distributions (Pacific as well as global), management and impact information.
Available from: http://www.hear.org/pier/species/dichrostachys_cinerea.htm [Accessed 5 February 2003].

General information
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Summary: Tableau synth�tique des plantes exotiques de Mayotte class�es en fonction de leur niveau d envahissement.
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Summary: Base de donn�es sur la flore de La R�union. De nombreuses informations tr�s utiles.
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ITIS (Integrated Taxonomic Information System), 2004. Online Database *Dichrostachys cinerea*
Summary: An online database that provides taxonomic information, common names, synonyms and geographical jurisdiction of a species. In addition links are provided to retrieve biological records and collection information from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Data Portal and bioscience articles from BioOne journals.
Available from: http://www.cbif.gc.ca/pls/itisca/taxastep?king=every&p_action=containing&taxa=Dichrostachys+cinerea&p_format=&p_ifx=plglt&p_lang= [Accessed December 31 2004]
Joseph, P. 2006. Les Petites Antilles face aux risques d invasion par les esp&#65533;ces v&#65533;g&#65533;tales introduites. L exemple de la Martinique. Revue d Ecologie (Terre et Vie) 61: 209-224.
Kueffer, C. & Lavergne, C. 2004. Case studies on the status of invasive woody plant species in the Western Indian Ocean. R&#65533;union. FAO. 36 p
Summary: Available from: http://www.fao.org/forestry/webview/media?mediaId=6842&langId=2 [Accessed 26 March 2008]