

Tamarix aphylla

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Violales	Tamaricaceae

Common name Tamariske (German), woestyntamarisk (Afrikaans), athel-pine (English), saltcedar (English), tamarix (English), tamarisk (English), desert tamarix (English), taray (Spanish), Athel tamarisk (English), tamaris (French), athel-tree (English), farash (English, India)

Synonym *Tamarix articulata* , Vahl
Thuja aphylla , L.

Similar species

Summary The athel pine, *Tamarix aphylla* (L.) Karst., is native to Africa and tropical and temperate Asia. It is an evergreen tree that grows to 15 m, and has been introduced around the world, mainly as shelter and for erosion control. Seedlings of *T. aphylla* develop readily once established, and grow woody root systems that can reach as deep as 50 m into soil and rock. It can extract salts from soil and water excrete them through their branches and leaves. *T. aphylla* can have the following effects on ecological systems: dry up viable water sources; increase surface soil salinity; modification of hydrology; decrease native biodiversity of plants, invertebrates, birds, fish and reptiles; and increase fire risk. Management techniques that have been used to control *T. aphylla* include mechanical clearing - using both machinery and by hand - and/or herbicides.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Notes

Tamarix aphylla Is thought to hybridise with the smallflower tamarisk, *T. parviflora*. (National Athel Pine Management Committee 2008).

Management Info

Management techniques that have been used to control *Tamarix* sp. include mechanical clearing - using both machinery and by hand - and/or herbicides. Hand-pulling is a very suitable control method when there are a few scattered seedlings, whilst other methods are more suitable for dense trees (excavation) and dense seedlings (stick raking, blade ploughing, ripping, root raking). In terms of chemical management techniques, options include foliar sprays, cut stump application, basal bark application and flooding. (National Athel Pine Management Committee 2008).

The [Athel Pine National Best Practice Management Manual](#) brings together the best management practices available to date on control options for athel pine (*Tamarix aphylla*), tamarisk (*Tamarix ramosissima*) and smallflower tamarisk (*Tamarix parviflora*). It also illustrates successful control programs with case studies that demonstrate how these weeds are managed effectively in Australia. Included are pointers to identify the *Tamarix* species you are dealing with as each of them are managed using different strategies. The manual includes a 'Decision Support Tree for *Tamarix* control' to develop a control program for athel pine, tamarisk or smallflower tamarisk based on the type of infestation you have to treat and the options available to you.

The [Weed Control Methods Handbook](#) provides you with detailed information about the tools and techniques available for controlling invasive plants, or weeds, in natural areas. This Handbook is divided into eight chapters, covering a range of different control methods: manual, mechanical, promoting competition from native plants, grazing, biocontrol, herbicides, prescribed fire, solarization, flooding, and other, more novel, techniques. Each control method has advantages and disadvantages in terms of its effects against the target weed(s), impacts to untargeted plants and animals, risks to human health and safety, and costs.

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Publication date: 2010-10-07

ALIEN RANGE

[1] AUSTRALIA

[2] UNITED STATES

BIBLIOGRAPHY

6 references found for *Tamarix aphylla*

Management information

Gouldthorpe, Jonah, 2008. Athel Pine National Best Practice Management Manual: Managing athel pine and other *Tamarix* weeds in Australia. This manual is sponsored by the Australian Government and supported by the Northern Territory Government's Department of Natural Resources, Environment and The Arts (NRETA).

Summary: Available from: <http://www.weeds.org.au/WoNS/athelpine/docs/Athel%20Pine%20Manual%20Web.pdf> [Accessed 26 July 2010]
IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG), 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.

Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

General information

Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS), 2010. *Tamarix aphylla* (L.) Karst.

Summary: Available from: http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=22306 [Accessed 26 July 2010]
USDA, ARS, 2010. Taxon: *Tamarix aphylla* (L.) H. Karst. National Genetic Resources Program. Germplasm Resources Information Network - (GRIN) [Online Database]. National Germplasm Resources Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland.

Summary: Available from: <http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?36222> [Accessed 26 July 2010]



GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Tamarix aphylla*

USDA-NRCS, 2010. *Tamarix aphylla* (L.) Karst. Athel tamarisk. The PLANTS Database (<http://plants.usda.gov>, 6 October 2010). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.

Summary: Available from: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=TAAP> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

Varnham, K 2006. *Non-native species in UK Overseas Territories: a review JNCC Report No. 372*

Summary: Available from: http://www.caymanbiodiversity.com/wp-content/uploads/2007/10/jncc372_web.pdf [Accessed 9 April 2010]