

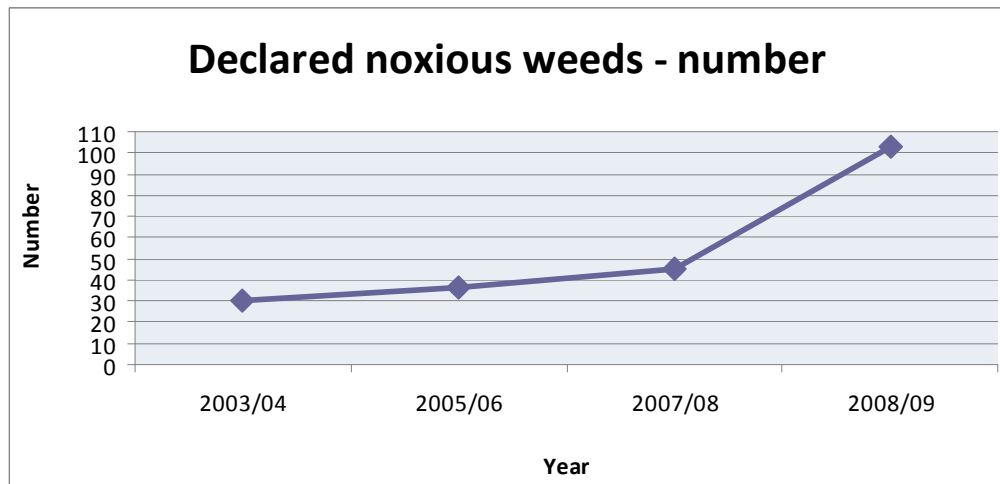
Weeds

What are we monitoring?

Number of declared noxious weeds that are known to occur in the Blue Mountains

What is the trend?

The number of declared noxious weeds that are known to occur in the Blue Mountains increased between 2003-2004 and 2008-2009. A revision of the NSW Noxious Weed Act 1993 led to a significant number of additional weeds being declared in the Blue Mountains LGA between 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.



Declared Noxious Weeds in the Blue Mountains				
Year	2003/04	2005/06	2007/08	2008/09
Number	30	36	45	103

The term 'Noxious Weed' is a legal term. The *Noxious Weeds Act, 1993* declares and classifies plants which are a danger to human health, serious economic pests, and invaders of natural systems. Noxious weeds in the Blue Mountains include plants such as gorse, lantana, bamboo and pussy willow.

Why is monitoring this trend important?

Weeds are plants whose growth habit results in the loss of environmental, economic or social values. In the natural environment, weeds compete with the native flora for resources including water, nutrients and sunlight, impacting negatively on biodiversity values. Although the number of declared noxious weeds has been increasing, it should be noted that recognising the presence of noxious weeds is an important step in their control and eradication.

Source: Blue Mountains City Council, State of Environment Reports - City of Blue Mountains

www.sustainablebluemountains.net.au/resources/publications/

Also refer to www.weedsbluemountains.org.au/