



# The WeedScan Project

**In support of a National Project conducted by the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions and The New South Wales Department of Primary Industries.**

This project aims to identify all weeds in Australia by compiling a photographic data base. It will then allow all Australians to identify any weed from its photograph and to be provided with advice on how to control or eradicate it.

**At least 1000 pictures of each weed species need to be collected from locations across Australia. The database will use the photographs to identify any weed.**

Current weed identification relies on expert knowledge, interpreting taxonomic or morphological identification keys, trying to match a weed with an image in a weed guide or app, or sending a weed image or specimen to herbariums for identification. This often leads to delayed or incorrect identification that impedes timely action, particularly on emerging weeds, and requires State herbaria to allocate scarce resources to respond to community identification requests for well-known for well-known established weeds

This project will develop, trial and implement Australia's first real-time, artificial intelligence-based, automated identification of national state and regional priority weeds. It will also develop and promote a fit for purpose community weed management, alert reporting and communication system, WeedScan building one the currently available FeralScan platform to better enable cooperative community-led weeds management.

The new tool will provide an easy to use digital tool enabling:

- (a) Weeds to be identified quickly without expert knowledge.
- (b) Easy access to best practice management information.
- (c) Enable action either at the individual enterprise level or as part of a cooperative regional WeedScan community-led management and communication system.

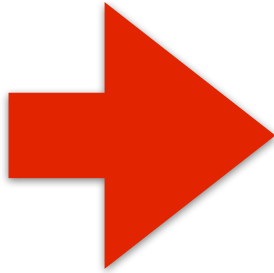
**THE GCA IS ASKING** as many as possible of the 55,000 gardeners who are associated with Affiliates of The Garden Clubs of Australia Inc to participate in this project - all you need is a **MOBILE PHONE** or a digital camera.

**Spend a little time between September 2021 and May - June 2022 photographing weeds in your garden, on street verges in your neighbourhood, in parks, gardens and sports-grounds, on the sides of roads, on the banks of creeks and waterholes or at the beach and send them into WEEDSCAN**

Submitting photos to WeedScan is a relatively easy process.

Firstly, for each weed, photograph the whole plant then take photos of leaves, flowers ( if present) growth habit or distinctive features. Take lots of photographs.

Submit photos separately by weed species and location at-



**<http://weeds.org.au/identify/weeds-photo-submissions/>**

More tips on identifying weeds are available on-line at the submission form link .

There is lots of information covering topics including-

Leaves

Flowers

Buds and Spent Flowers

Fruit and Pods

Find out more about how your photos will be used via our FAQ below or contact Andrew Mitchell via [andrew.mitchell@invasives.com.au](mailto:andrew.mitchell@invasives.com.au) prior to submitting your photos

Name

First Name Last Name

Email \*

example@example.com

Phone Number

Area Code Phone Number

Where were the photos taken

Locality State

Post code

Weed name

Please provide common name and species name if known

Upload images already taken \*

Drag and drop files here

Please keep image files under 5mb each

or take a photo and upload directly

Any other information you'd like to provide prior to submission

Type here...

e.g. land use context (field, road side)

I agree to these images being used under a [CC BY-NC 4.0](#) licence. \*

