

MR (Major) *Acacia longifolia*

Date assessed	2020-09-27
Year published	2022
Eicat category	MR (Major)
Justification for EICAT assessment	<i>Acacia longifolia</i> caused native plant species diversity decrease (Marchante et al., 2003; Marchante et al., 2015; Carvalho et al., 2018; Marchante et al., 2011; López-Núñez et al., 2017; Rascher et al., 2011) and altered soil properties (Alberio & Comparatore, 2014; Hellmann et al. 2011). Native plant species richness was lower in both, recently and long-invaded <i>A. longifolia</i> sites compared to uninvaded areas (Marchante, 2011). <i>A. longifolia</i> also reduced arthropod abundance and species richness at medium and highly invaded areas (Rodríguez et al., 2020). <i>A. longifolia</i> reduced bacterial community diversity (Slabbert et al., 2014; Le Roux et al., 2018) and led to lower invertebrate species richness and diversity (Samways et al., 1996).
Confidence rating	High
Mechanism(s) of maximum impact	Competition; Structural Impact on ecosystem; Indirect impacts through interactions with other species; Chemical impact on ecosystems
Countries of most severe impact	Portugal; Argentina; South Africa; Uruguay; NW Iberian Peninsula
Description of impact	Impact categories ranged from minimal concern to major. <i>Acacia longifolia</i> often had structural and physical impact through changing the natural ecosystem structure and changing native community composition. <i>A. longifolia</i> also often had chemical impacts by changing soil properties of the natural environment. <i>A. longifolia</i> is able to reduce seed germination and seedling growth through poisoning/toxic effects. <i>A. longifolia</i> outcompeted native species and homogenised natural areas. <i>A. longifolia</i> has indirect impacts on natives by decreasing seed dispersal of native plants.
Assessor	Cally Jansen
Contributors	
Reviewers	EICAT authority
Recommended citation	Cally Jansen. (2024). <i>Acacia longifolia</i> . IUCN Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT).

