

UNWANTED IN LAMPIESBAAI:

INVASIVE PLANT SPECIES AND WHAT THEY COULD COST YOU



South Africa is home to the world's richest temperate flora with approximately 20,500 plants species – of which 13,265 are endemics that occur nowhere else on earth. It is also host to thousands of exotic plant species that have been introduced to the country over the past few centuries. Of all these plants, 559 are classified as invasive and governed by the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act, 2004 (Act no. 10 of 2004; hereafter referred to as NEMBA). NEMBA divides these plants into four categories based on how they need to be controlled/managed by law:

Category 1a	Invasive species which must be removed. Any form of trade or planting is strictly prohibited and no permits are issued that will allow you to do so.
Category 1b	Invasive species which must be controlled and wherever possible, removed and destroyed. Any form or trade or planting is strictly prohibited and no permits will be granted.
Category 2	Invasive species that are potentially invasive and therefore, a permit is required to carry out any restricted activities with them.
Category 3	These species may remain in existing areas, but no further planting, propagation or trade are allowed. Additionally, if these species are on your property, you are not obliged to remove them but again no planting, propagation or trade is allowed.



How does the NEMBA act affect you and your property?

The NEMBA regulations state that the seller of any property must, prior to the sale agreement, notify the purchaser of the property in writing of the presence of listed invasive species on that property. The responsibility then falls on the new owner to obtain a permit for Category 2 aliens and to ensure that these do not spread outside their property. A new landowner could take legal action against a seller who failed to notify the buyer that there were invasive plants on the property.



Permits needed

Permit application forms to carry out restricted activities for Category 2 alien invasive plants – including keeping them on your property – may be downloaded from www.invasives.org.za. Permit fees are as follows (cost applies per species):

Import into the country – R200.

All restricted activities – R100.

Renewal of permit – R50.

Appeals – R50.



Why are invasive species a problem?

- They are highly adaptable and vigorous growers.
- They have invaded over 10% of the country.
- They use 7% of the water resources in South Africa.
- They increase fire frequency and intensity.
- They threaten biodiversity by replacing indigenous vegetation, which result in a loss of insect species that are dependent on these plants.

Plant me instead



Bauhinia galpinii
Pride of De Kaap,
Vlam-van-die-Vlakte



Schotia afra
Karoo boer-bean,
Karoohuilboerboom



Nuxia floribunda,
Forest elder,
Bosvlier



Virgilia divaricate
Blossam tree,
Keurboom



Carissa bispinosa
Forest num-num,
Bosnoemnoem



Polygala myrtifolia
September bush,
Septemberbossie



Brachylaena discolor
Coast silver oak,
Kusvaalbos



Burchella babalina
Wild pomegranate,
Wildegrenaat

Spotter network!

What can you do to help!

- Become well-informed. A good resource to get all relevant information regarding invasive species is www.invasives.org.za.
- Report sightings of invasive species to the Lampiesbaai Executive Committee so that appropriate action can be taken to control their spread.
- Remove invasive species from your garden and replace them with native species.

Spotlight on invasive plants at Lampiesbaai



Cluster pine (*Pinus pinaster*)
Category 1b, Category 2 for plantations

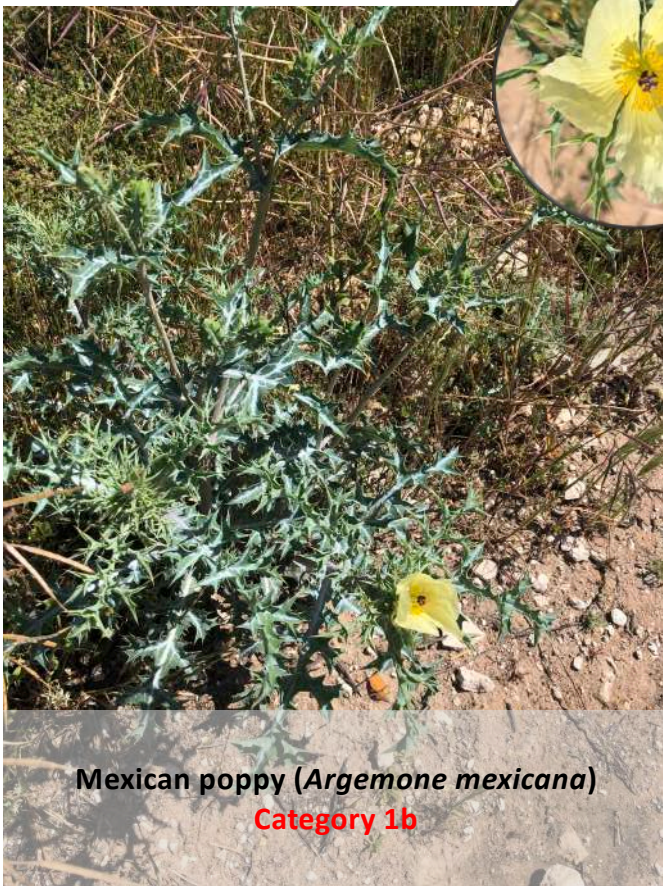
Where does this species come from?
Mediterranean

How does it spread?
Spreads by seed dispersal from the cones.

Why is it a problem?
Competes with and replaces indigenous species. Dense stands can reduce water runoff from mountain catchments. Pose a fire hazard.

Does the plant have any uses?
Used for timber.

Plant me instead
Podocarpus henkellii
Podocarpus latifolius
Podocarpus falcatus



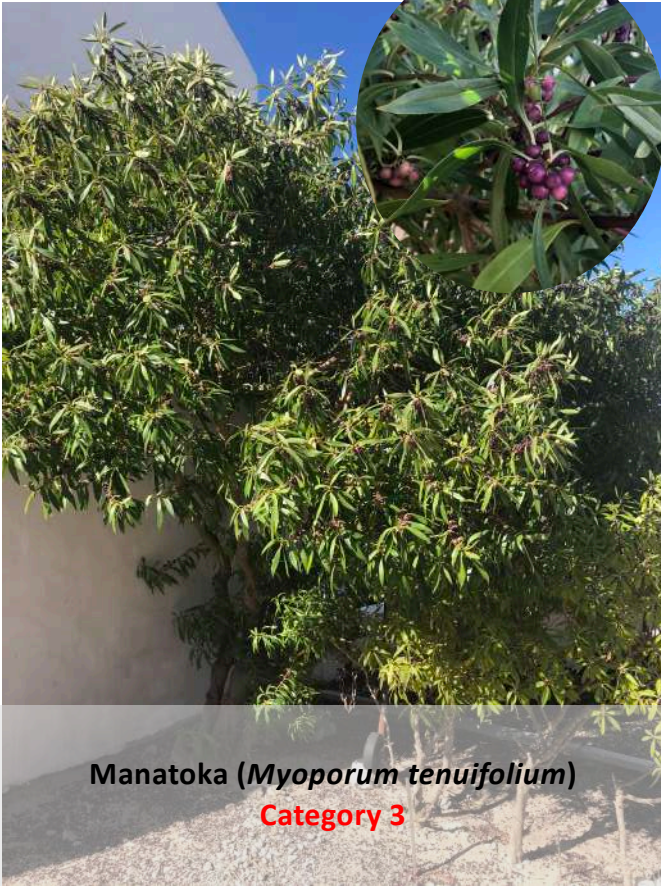
Mexican poppy (*Argemone mexicana*)
Category 1b

Where does this species come from?
Mexico

How does it spread?
Dispersal of small black seeds.

Why is it a problem?
It is prolific in disturbed sites and competes with agricultural crops and indigenous species. The seeds are poisonous to humans and livestock.

Does the plant have any uses?
No, this plant is a noxious weed.



Manatoka (*Myoporum tenuifolium*)
Category 3

Where does this species come from?

Australia

How does it spread?

By birds over long distances

Why is it a problem?

Competes with and replaces indigenous species.

Does the plant have any uses?

Used as a wind break and hedging plant.

Plant me instead

Sideroxylon inerme

Schotia afra

NOTE

Manatoka is listed as Category 3 therefore the law states that any of the species that were planted before 30 March 2001 can be left but any new plantings may not take place.



Prickly pear (*Opuntia ficus-indica*)
Category 1b

Where does this species come from?

Central America (Mexico)

How does it spread?

Seed dispersal by animals.

Why is it a problem?

Competes with and replaces indigenous species. Dense infestations can cause drastic devaluation of agricultural and conservation land.

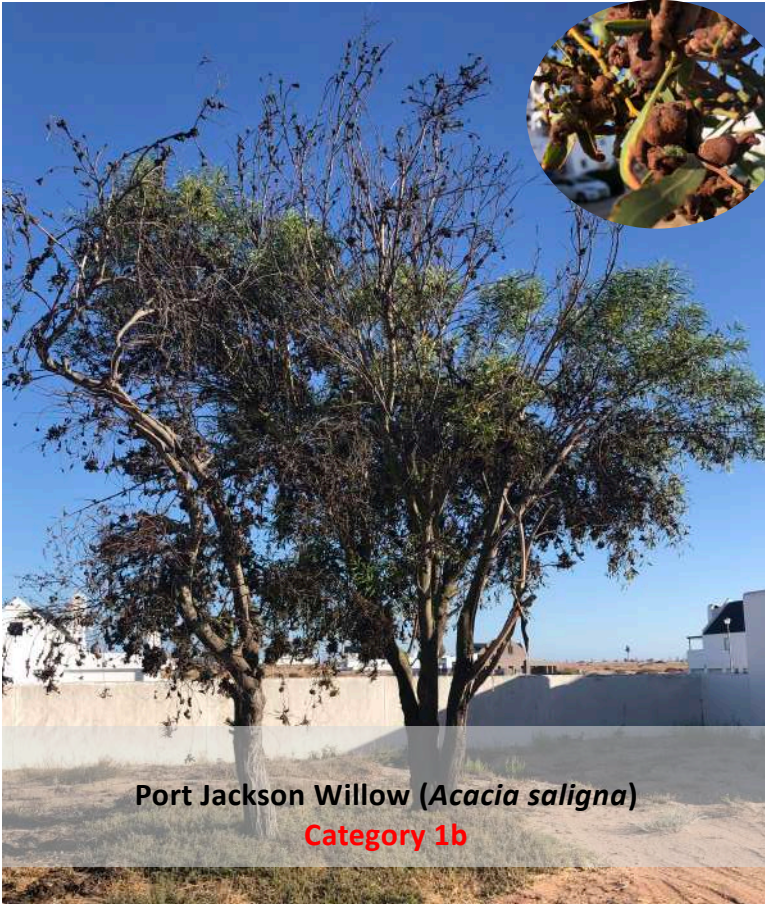
Does the plant have any uses?

Edible fruits, animal fodder and security hedging.

Plant me instead alternatives

Euphorbia spp.

Aloe spp.



Port Jackson Willow (*Acacia saligna*)
Category 1b



Where does this species come from?

Australia

How does it spread?

Seed dispersal

Why is it a problem?

Competes and replaces indigenous species.

Does the plant have any uses?

Cultivated for dune reclamation, provides fodder.

Biological control

A gall forming fungus (see picture) reduces the flowering and seed set of the Port Jackson and often ends up killing the plant after a few years.

Plant me instead

Buddleja saligna

Peltophorum africanum



A field of Port Jackson's along Lampies Drive - The tree can resprout from the stump if you cut it down, so if you want to kill the tree you have to paint the cut stump with herbicide.