

Mini data sheet on *Acroptilon repens*

Added in 2000 - Deleted in 2000

**Reasons for deletion:**

The Panel on Phytosanitary Measures considered that the weed *Acroptilon repens* was not an alert situation. In 2000, it was therefore removed from the EPPO Alert List.

*Acroptilon repens* (Asteraceae) - Russian knapweed, creeping knapweed

Why	The Panel on Phytosanitary Measures is currently discussing the potential quarantine status of weeds, and <i>Acroptilon repens</i> was retained as a potential candidate.
Where	<p><i>A. repens</i> is native to Central Asia and has spread from there to many other areas.</p> <p><b>Europe:</b> Russia (Volgograd, Rostov, Saratov and Orenburg provinces, Stavropol territory, Kalmykia), Ukraine (south).</p> <p><b>Asia:</b> Afghanistan, Armenia, China (eastern), Georgia (north), India, Iraq, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.</p> <p><b>Africa:</b> South Africa.</p> <p><b>North America:</b> Canada (widely distributed in Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, common in British Columbia, present in Ontario), USA (most common in the semi-arid western states, present in 21 states).</p> <p><b>South America:</b> Argentina.</p> <p><b>Central America &amp; Caribbean:</b> Trinidad.</p> <p><b>Oceania:</b> Australia.</p>
On which crops	All sown crops may be infested, but <i>A. repens</i> is confined to areas with a warm, dry climate, with annual precipitation up to 400 mm. It is not a weed of intensive agriculture in temperate climates or under irrigation. Its persistence and colonial habit can also cause problems in orchards, vineyards, pastures or roadsides.
Damage	<i>A. repens</i> is a perennial weed, reproducing by seeds and by rhizomes which strongly compete with crops for water and nutrients. Plants are poisonous for many animals (especially horses, but not sheep and goats).
Dissemination	<i>A. repens</i> seeds are carried with harvested seeds of many herbaceous crops, particularly cereals, and also with hay and straw. Locally, the dried fruiting heads can be carried from infested fields by water courses.
Pathway	Contaminated seed lots (especially cereals), fodder (especially hay and straw), soil and growing media, soil attached to plants.
Possible risks	<i>A. repens</i> is an invasive weed which continues to spread in areas where it occurs. Its control is difficult (cultural practices are not effective, chemical control is difficult). However, in the EPPO region most areas are unsuitable for its development (i.e. northern and western Europe). It could present a risk for the Mediterranean region and Central Europe.
Source(s)	<p>Draft EPPO Data Sheet.</p> <p>Frankton, C.; Mulligan, G.A. (1993) Weeds of Canada, Publication 948, Agriculture Canada, 217 pp.</p> <p>Holm, L.G.; Pancho, J.V.; Hergerger, J.P.; Plucknett, D.L. (1991) A geographical Atlas of world weeds, Krieger publishing Company, Malabar, Florida (US), 391 pp.</p> <p>Reed, C.F. (1977) Economically imported foreign weeds. Potential problems in the United States, Agriculture Handbook no. 498, USDA, Washington, USA, 746 pp.</p> <p>INTERNET</p> <p><i>Acroptilon repens</i>. Southwest exotic plant mapping program.  <a href="http://www.usgs.edu/swemp/Info-pages/plants/Acroptilon/Russianknapweed.html">http://www.usgs.edu/swemp/Info-pages/plants/Acroptilon/Russianknapweed.html</a></p> <p>Element stewardship abstract for <i>Acroptilon repens</i>. the nature Conservancy.  <a href="http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/esadocs/documnts/acrorep.html">http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/esadocs/documnts/acrorep.html</a></p> <p>North American Russian knapweed (<i>Centaurea repens</i>) inventory.  <a href="http://w3.uwo.edu/~caps/rkinventory/rkinv.htm">http://w3.uwo.edu/~caps/rkinventory/rkinv.htm</a></p>