Prosopis, Parthenium and beyond -Elements for an integrated strategy of IAS control in the Afar region

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Prosopis came not alone

- More than 35 IAS in Ethiopia
- Prosopis control to be part of an integrated IAS-strategy
- IAS-control: a method integrated into modern sustainable landuse et resource conservation

Important invasive species in Afar region

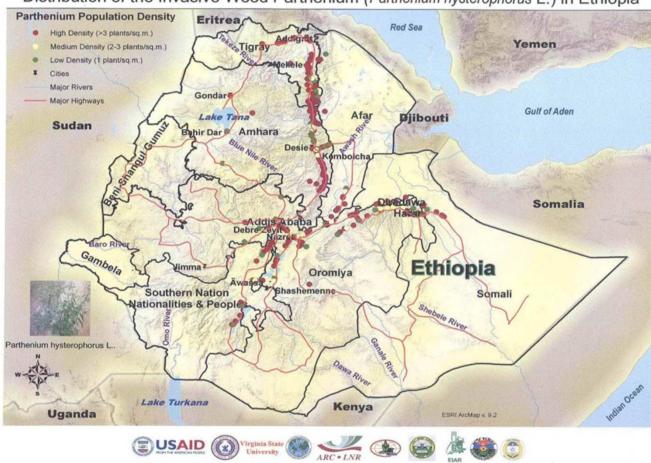
Parthenium hysterophorus

Acacia nubica





Distribution of P. hysterophorus



Distribution of the Invasive Weed Parthenium (Parthenium hysterophorus L.) in Ethiopia

Map by Dr. Kassahun Zewdie, EIAR: PP-Presentation Biological Control of Parthenium hysterophorus in Ethiopia: An overview

Parthenium hysterophorus damages

Dry-season aspect. Photos: Nov. 2013, close to Chiffra

Overgrown irrigation plot



By the roadside



Control measures of P. hysterophorus

- On farmland (irrigated)
- Irrigation canals
- On rangeland
- Road sides
- Settlement areas

Implementation of control measures

In Afar only marginal activities of Parthenium control:

- -Some on irrigated land
- -Very little on range land

Acacia nubica invading rangeland dry-season aspect. Photo: Nov. 2013, close to Chiffra



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Common frame of control for all IAS

- Benefits: synergies in on the level of
 - Observation of spreading,
 - information/capacity development,
 - policy dev., institutional strengthening, etc.
- Resulting in stronger institutional setting, faster response, less cost, etc.

Elements of an integrated strategy

- Integration Levels:
 - Policy definition
 - Institutional mandates
 - Socio-cultural compatibility of measures
 - Cooperation of actors
 - Landscape ecology
 - Economic (Profitability of land-use)
 - Research and Technology Development
 - Information & Capacity Development

Focus: communities / land-users

- Challenge: continuity of control measures
- How to put land-users in the driver seat
- Socio-cultural compatibility of measures including gender
- How to create stimulus for land-users to invest in profitable land-use.

Focus: Total area coverage

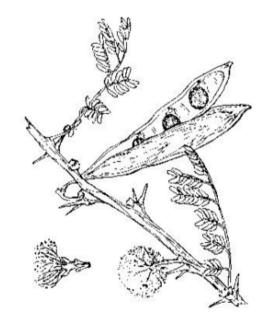
- Ambition to cover the total area of the Afar National Regional State
- But with site- and context specific measures
- Adapting measures to communites, to landuse, to natural conditions, etc. ?

Focus: Integrating IAS control

- IAS be integrated into a larger package for the strengthening Livelihoods:
 - Land use planning
 - Modernising agriculture and range land-use
 - Accompany ongoing transformation of livelihood strategies

Focus: Institutional development

- How to create a fitting institutional set-up between national – regional and local level?
- Clear institutional mandates for all levels



What to build on?

Sound base to build an integrated strategy on:

- Existing research (Removing barriers to invasive plant management in ET,
- **•** Experiences gained in programmes
- \odot Existing vocational programmes
- \circ Policy paper of Afar
- \odot Willingness of partners