

Extermination of Parthenium Hysterophorus Invasive Weed for Environmental

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Abstract

Parthenium invasive killer weed species adversely affect ecosystems at multiple tiers. These invasive alien plant species often disturb the native species composition by destabilizing the vegetative biodiversity by dominating the landscape of the invaded area. The occurrence of the parthenium invasive killer weed in grasslands is reported to have reduced forage production up to 90% besides making land less fertile; affecting grazing land, animal health, and milk and meat quality. Medical and veterinary effects have manifested in most counties of the country. The parthenium invasive killer weed is known to affect animal and human health. It caused massive losses of biodiversity hence was recorded as an invasive killer weed species in Kenya. Infestation by parthenium invasive killer weed degraded natural ecosystems and reduced yields of agricultural crops and decreased water availability, caused costly land degradation, blocked transport routes and contributed to the spread of diseases. The research objective was to exterminate of parthenium hysterophorus invasive weed for environmental sustainability. Literature review from primary data gathered from relevant documents published by individual researchers and other research organisations were the main methods of data collection for this paper. When Parthenium Hysterophorus invasive weed robs all food from another organism hence it was recommended for small, medium and large scale farmers to always carry out hand uprooting for scattered Parthenium Hysterophorus killer invasive weed.

Keywords: Weeds, alien plant, biodiversity, environmental sustainability