

# Top 5 Highveld Land Invaders

**Invasive Alien Plants** are those that have been introduced into South Africa and have become naturalised. This means they are able to reproduce and spread without assistance by people. Also known as environmental weeds, these plants threaten both agriculture and natural ecosystems. Listed here are five of the worst IAPs in Gauteng. According to CARA (Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act No. 43 of 1983, these plants need to be removed and should not be propagated at all.

National WeedBuster Week  
4 - 8 October 2012

*Solanum mauritianum*



*Opuntia ficus-indica* (sweet prickly pear)



Origin: Mexico

*Solanum mauritianum* (bugweed)



Origin: S. America

*Melia azedarach* (seringa)



Origin: India

*Araujia sericifera* (moth catcher)



Origin: Brazil

*Sesbania punicea* (red sesbania)



Origin: S. America



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[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/98/Araujia\\_sericifera\\_-\\_Fleurs-4.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/9/98/Araujia_sericifera_-_Fleurs-4.jpg)