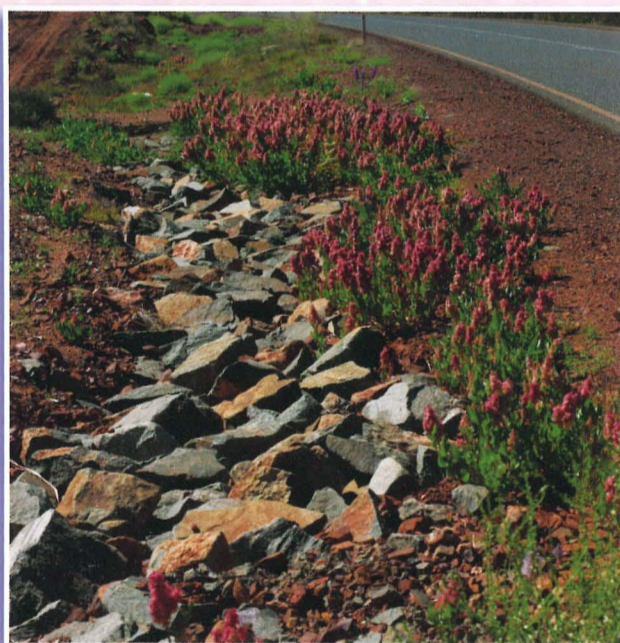


RUBY DOCK

SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL WEED



Ruby dock (*Acetosa vesicaria* previously *Rumex vesicarius*) is a problematic environmental weed in the rangelands of Western Australia. This weed displaces native wildflowers like many of the attractive mulla mullas (*Ptilotus sp.*) and ground covers like Sturt's Desert pea. Ruby dock infestations should be reported to your environmental staff or land management officers.



Ruby dock has large red, often purplish tinged flowers and pale green, somewhat succulent leaves. Infestations are often found in creek beds, quarries, mine sites and on road verges. Seeds of this environmental weed are protected within spongy brown fruits that are dispersed by wind and water. Ruby dock can germinate after summer rains although typically it is a winter annual.



It is speculated that Afghan cameleers introduced Ruby dock to Australia from North Africa or South-west Asia during the latter half of the 1800's.