



Marloth Park's Greatest Threat

One of the greatest threats to Marloth's fauna and flora is Parthenium, aptly named "famine weed", because where it grows, famine follows. It is a frightening statistic that 38% of Marloth is affected by Parthenium. It is toxic to humans and animals. It poisons the soil and is drought resistant. The growth period is between September and May. After the first rains it appears as a flat rosette of feathery leaves. It rapidly grows and can reach a height of up to 1.5 metres. It has small white flowers and each plant can have up to 25,000 seeds. It resembles, somewhat, "baby's breath" used in floral decorations, but there is nothing innocent about this plant. Overgrazing facilitates the spreading of Parthenium, as well as seeds being wind borne, and dispersed by animals and humans brushing up against it. It inhibits the growth of our natural flora, thus reducing grazing for our animals.

It is a skin and respiratory irritant and can cause allergic dermatitis and asthma.

This problem is not unique to Marloth or, indeed, South Africa. Australia has swathes of land fenced off in an attempt to control this monster.

We have a dedicated alien plant team, supported by the Municipality, which goes out twice weekly to try to control this weed.

Home owners, YOU can help us! Remove the plant, including roots, preferably before flowering. The uprooted plants should be placed in sturdy, whole bags. Ensure that you are wearing protective gloves and long sleeves, and eye-wear if necessary. Contact the above number to have these bags removed, or for further information. The team will also help with removal.

TOGETHER WE CAN CONTROL THIS!!

Marloth Park se Grootste Bedreiging

Een van die grootste bedreigings vir Marloth se fauna en flora is Parthenium, paslik genoem "famine weed" in Engels, want waar dit groei volg hongersnood. Die Afrikaanse naam is Demoinabossie. Dit is 'n skrikwekkende statistiek dat 38% van Marloth Park geraak is deur Parthenium. Dit is giftig vir mens en dier. Dit vergiftig die grond en is droogte bestand. Die groeitydperk is tussen September en Mei. Na die eerste reën verskyn dit as 'n plat roset met veeragtige blare. Dit groei baie vinnig en kan tot 'n hoogte van 1.5 meter groei. Dit het klein, wit blommetjies en elke plant kan tot 25 000 sade bevat. Dit lyk, min of meer, soos "baby's breath", wat in blommerangskikkings gebruik word, maar daar is niks wat onskuldig is aan hierdie plant nie. Oorweiding dra by tot die verspreiding van Parthenium, en ook sade wat met die wind waai en versprei word deur diere en mense. Dit inhibeer die groei van ons natuurlike flora, wat dan die weiding vir ons diere verminder.

Dit is 'n vel en resperatoriese irritasie wat ekseem en asma kan veroorsaak.

Hierdie probleem is nie uniek in Marloth, of selfs Suid Afrika nie. Australië het landstroke wat afgekamp is in 'n poging om hierdie monster te beheer.

Ons het 'n toegewyde indringer plante span, ondersteun deur die Munisipaliteit, wat twee keer per week uitgaan om hierdie onkruid te probeer beheer.

Huis eienaars, JULLE kan ons help! Verwyder die plant, insluitende die wortel, verkieslik voor dit blom. Plaas die ontwortelde plante in stewige, heel sakke. Maak seker dat julle beskermende handskoene en langmoue dra, selfs brille indien nodig. Kontak die nommer wat hierbo gelys word om die sakke te verwyder, of vir enige verdere inligting. Die span sal ook help om die sakke te verwyder.

SAAM KAN ONS DIT BEHEER!!