



# WEB APP USER GUIDE

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# INTRODUCTION

WeedScan is an Australia-wide priority-weed identification, recording and alert system that connects people managing weeds in their local area. WeedScan is free and available as a web app or mobile app (Android and iOS).

The information provided in this guide is specific to public users (anonymous or registered) when using the **WeedScan web app**.

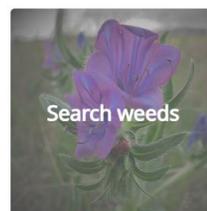
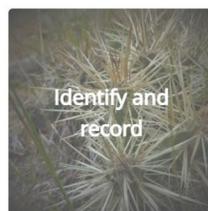
# GETTING STARTED

## ACCESS THE WEEDSCAN WEB APP

The WeedScan web app is available online at <https://weedscan.org.au/> and is best suited for use on a desktop computer.

The WeedScan web app is not optimised for viewing on mobile devices. For a mobile-friendly version, download the free WeedScan mobile app from the Android or Apple app store.

## THE WEEDSCAN INTERFACE



## PRIVACY POLICY AND TERMS & CONDITIONS

A link to the Privacy Policy and Terms & Conditions is located at bottom of every page.

## REGISTER AN ACCOUNT

To register for a WeedScan account:

1. Go to the WeedScan web app at <https://weedscan.org.au/>
2. Click **Register** on the top right of the page.
3. Enter the requested information (email, name, phone number, state, and password). Your password must have at least 8 characters and include at least one upper-case letter and one number.
4. Read and accept the Privacy Policy and Terms & Conditions.
5. Click the green **Register** button.

## LOG IN

To log in to your WeedScan account:

1. Go to the WeedScan web app at <https://weedscan.org.au/>
2. Click **Login** on the top right of the page.
3. Enter the email and password for your WeedScan account.
4. Click the green **Log in** button. Your name should now appear at the top right of the page.

## LOG OUT

To log out of your WeedScan account, click **Logout** on the top right of the page. The message 'You have successfully logged out of the application' should be displayed.

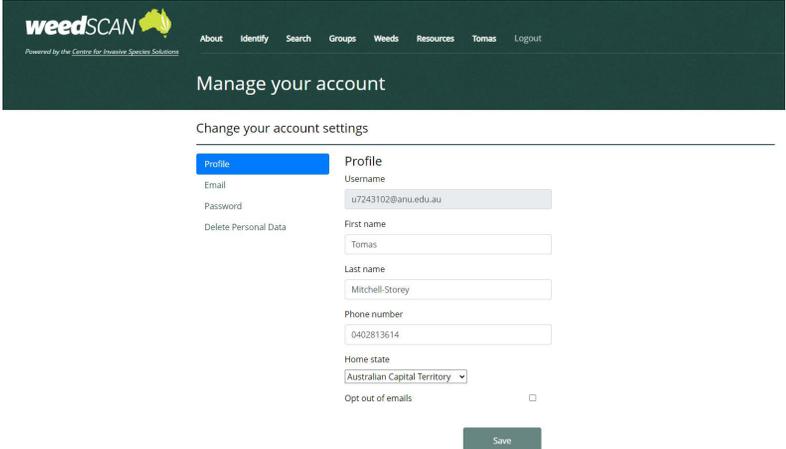
## MANAGE YOUR ACCOUNT

To manage your WeedScan account:

1. Go to <https://weedscan.org.au/>
2. Log in to your WeedScan account
3. Click on your name at the top right of the page to open the manage account portal. From here you can change your profile, email and password settings.

### Update your name, phone number or home state:

1. Open the manage account portal.
2. Select Profile on the left of the page.
3. Edit the name, phone number or home state and click the Save button.
4. Opt out of emails if you do not wish to be notified about exciting WeedScan news and updates
5. Remove WeedScan Groups section – replace with this, [hyperlink new groups guide](#):



The screenshot shows the 'Manage your account' page in the WeedScan web app. The page title is 'Manage your account' and the subtitle is 'Change your account settings'. On the left, there is a navigation menu with 'Profile' selected. The main content area is titled 'Profile' and contains the following fields: Username (u7243102@anu.edu.au), First name (Tomas), Last name (Mitchell-Storvey), Phone number (0402813614), Home state (Australian Capital Territory), and an 'Opt out of emails' checkbox. A 'Save' button is located at the bottom right of the form.

### Update email address

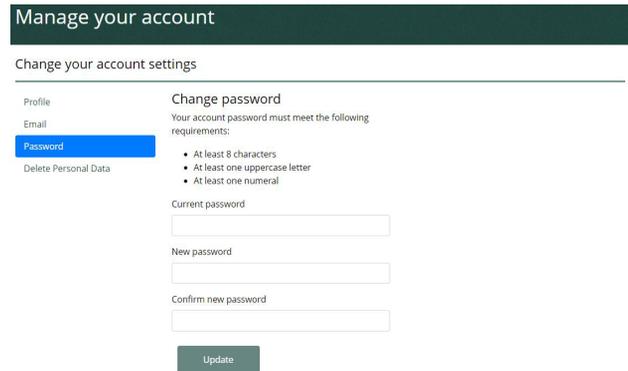
To update the email address for your WeedScan account:

1. Open the manage account portal.
2. Select **Email** on the left of the page.
3. Enter your preferred email address in the **New email** field and click the **Change email** button.
4. The email fields will display your old email until the new email address is confirmed. WeedScan sends a confirmation link to the new email address. Check your email and click the link to confirm the email change. Your email will now be updated.

## Update password

To update the password for your WeedScan account:

1. Open the manage account portal.
2. Select **Password** on the left of the page.
3. Complete the **Current password**, **New password**, and **Confirm new password** fields, then click the **Update** button.
4. The message 'Your password has been changed.' should appear.



**Manage your account**

Change your account settings

Profile  
Email  
**Password**  
Delete Personal Data

**Change password**  
Your account password must meet the following requirements:

- At least 8 characters
- At least one uppercase letter
- At least one numeral

Current password

New password

Confirm new password

**Update**

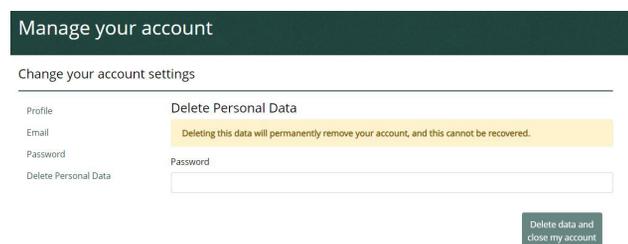
## Forgotten password

To reset your password if you have forgotten the password for your WeedScan account:

1. Click **Login** at the top right of the page.
2. Click **Forgot your password?**
3. Enter your WeedScan account email and click **Submit**.
4. Check your email for instructions to reset your password.
5. Follow the instructions in the email to reset your password.
6. Provide your WeedScan email and new password then click **Reset**. Your password must have at least 8 characters and include at least one upper-case letter and one number.
7. Your password is now reset. Please log in with your updated password.

## Delete account

1. If you wish to delete your WeedScan account permanently:
2. Select "Delete Personal Data"
3. Enter your password
4. Select "Delete data and close my account"



**Manage your account**

Change your account settings

Profile  
Email  
Password  
Delete Personal Data

**Delete Personal Data**  
Deleting this data will permanently remove your account, and this cannot be recovered.

Password

**Delete data and close my account**

## USE WEEDSCAN ANONYMOUSLY

Users can choose to use WeedScan anonymously by either not registering for an account or not logging in to their account.

When WeedScan is operating in anonymous mode, you can still use the plant identification and recording functions.

However, using WeedScan in anonymous mode limits the functionality available to users. For example:

1. Users who record a weed species cannot suggest an alternative to the AI-generated plant identification
2. Users cannot view any weed records they may have submitted when logged in as a registered user
3. Users cannot create or join a WeedScan group
4. Users cannot share weed records with members of a WeedScan group
5. Users cannot view weed records made by members of a WeedScan group.

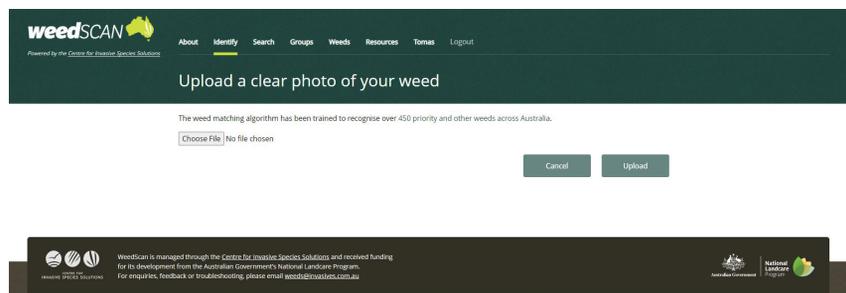
## IDENTIFY A PLANT YOU SUSPECT MAY BE A WEED

WeedScan enables you to upload images of suspected weeds for automatic identification using an artificial intelligence weed-identification model. This functionality is available to both registered and anonymous users.

To identify a suspected weed while logged in or anonymous:

1. Go to the WeedScan web application (<https://weedscan.org.au/>)
2. Choose to log in to your account or be anonymous.
3. Click **Identify** in the top navigation or the **Identify and record a weed** button.
4. Upload an image from your computer of a plant you suspect may be a weed.

To upload an image, click **Choose file**, select the file that you want you want to upload and click **Open**. Ensure the correct file has been uploaded (the filename appears next to the **Choose file** button) and click **Upload**.



5. Review the results and weed information.

WeedScan will produce a list of weed suggestions based on your image. For each suggested weed species, WeedScan provides example photos, a description of the weed, links to relevant weed information and the AI algorithm confidence value.

It is important that you review these resources to ensure that WeedScan has correctly identified your suspected weed. If WeedScan cannot generate a match with a priority weed species, it will generate a message 'Unknown plant or not included in WeedScan'.

### Results



Before recording your weed observation, check the information below to confirm correct identification.



**Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate)**  
 Plant Form: Scrambling shrub. Size: Large dense thickets. Stem: Up to 7 m long, covered in spines, green to purplish red. Leaves: Compound with 3-5 leaflets, dark green above and lighter green below. Flowers: White or pink with 5 petals, 2-3 cm in diameter. Fruit and Seeds: Red to black cluster of berries, containing up to 40 seeds each. Habitat: Gullies, riparian areas, paddocks, forests. Distinguishing Features: Larger leaves with deeper green undersides than Native raspberry (*Rubus parvifolius*).  
 ⓘ NSW WeedWise  
 ⓘ Weeds Australia  
 This is a priority weed in your state or territory  
 The WeedScan AI algorithm has a confidence of 80%



**Elmleaf blackberry (*Rubus ulmifolius*)**  
 ⓘ PlantNET  
 This is a priority weed in your state or territory  
 The WeedScan AI algorithm has a confidence of 19%

I disagree with the suggestion above. I think my weed is:

## WEEDS THAT WEEDSCAN CAN IDENTIFY

A list of the priority weed species that WeedScan has been trained to identify is available at <https://weedscan.org.au/Weeds> or by clicking **Weeds** at the top of the WeedScan homepage.

## RECORD YOUR WEED SIGHTING

Once WeedScan has identified your suspected weed as a priority weed, you can record the sighting in the web application.

All weed records are visible to the relevant weed authorities, but you have the choice to make the record publicly visible or not.

Sometimes WeedScan may suggest incorrect identifications. If you think your suspected weed has been misidentified and you are confident in your identification skills, you can nominate an alternative weed. You must be logged in to a WeedScan account to do this and you can only nominate one of the weeds that WeedScan has been trained to identify. If you are using the web app anonymously, WeedScan only allows you to record the weed that the AI model has determined to be the closest match.

To create a record of your weed sighting:

1. After identifying a plant you suspect may be a weed, review the weed information and confirm if WeedScan has correctly identified your suspected weed.
2. By default, the top AI match (this is the species with the highest confidence interval) is automatically selected. If this suggestion is correct, click **Record** to create a record of your weed observation. If not, and you are logged in, you may nominate an alternative priority weed species.

To nominate an alternative weed:

- a. If the weed you want is listed in the results, select the radio button next to the correct species and then click **Record** to create a record of your observation.
  - b. If the species you want to nominate is not listed, click the radio button next to 'I disagree with the suggestion above. I think my weed is:'. Then select the appropriate weed species from the drop-down list.
  - c. If your weed is not in the current WeedScan model, select "Other Weed (Not in AI Model)", and type in the **species name**. Please refrain from using casual or common names, which differ by area, unless necessary.
3. Select "Record".

Congratulations – you have now submitted a record of your weed sighting to the WeedScan database!

Extra images may now be attached to the weed record if desired. These additional images are not analysed by the WeedScan AI algorithm; however, they may assist weed authorities to verify your weed sighting or provide some useful information such as the size of the infestation, neighbouring plant species or nearby landmarks to help locate the weed.

To attach an additional image, click **Choose file**, select the image you want to upload, click **Open** and then **Upload**. The new image will appear near the top of the page. To delete the image, click **Remove** underneath the image.

**Results**

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Before recording your weed observation, check the information below to confirm correct identification.



**Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* species aggregate)**

Plant Form: Scrambling shrub. Size: Large dense thickets. Stem: Up to 7 m long, covered in spines, green to purplish red. Leaves: Compound with 3-5 leaflets, dark green above and lighter green below. Flowers: White or pink with 5 petals, 0.3 cm in diameter. Fruit and Seeds: Red to black cluster of berries, containing up to 40 seeds each. Habitat: Gullies, riparian areas, paddocks, forests. Distinguishing Features: Larger leaves with deeper green undersides than native raspberry (*Rubus parvifolius*).

NSW WeedWise

Weeds Australia

*This is a priority weed in your state or territory*

*The WeedScan AI algorithm has a confidence of 99%*

I disagree with the suggestion above. I think my weed is:

Choose a weed from the AI model or choose Other Weed ▼

Cancel

Record

## ADD FURTHER INFORMATION

After selecting “Record”, a new page will open, where you can change the date seen, location, density, and whether you removed or treated the plant.

1. Change the date seen by editing the date field, please use the format DD/MM/YYYY.
2. Manually edit the longitude and latitude or double click on the map where your weed was sighted.
3. Select one of the density options from the drop down menu “Density”, otherwise, leave as “Present (density unknown)”
4. If you treated or removed the plant in the image, please select “Yes”, otherwise, leave as “No”
5. Leave any comments that may be helpful, for example if a chemical treatment was used.

**Search weed records**

Weed:

State or territory:

Local government area:

Date observed from:

Only records from this group:

Include only my records:

Displays results as:  Map only  Table only  Both map and table

## SEARCH PUBLIC WEED RECORDS

If you want to know where a particular priority weed species has been recorded, or what priority weeds have been recorded in a specific location, you can explore the WeedScan records.

All personal information attached to an individual record is hidden, location data is generalised and records that users have marked as **Keep record private** will not be visible.

To explore the WeedScan public weed records:

1. Click **Search** at the top of the page or the **Search records** button on the WeedScan homepage.
2. Apply your search preferences and click the **Search** button.

In the example photo, the search will return a map of records for Blackberry in the ACT from 31/12/2020 – 13/06/2024.

**Search weed records**

Weed:

State or territory:

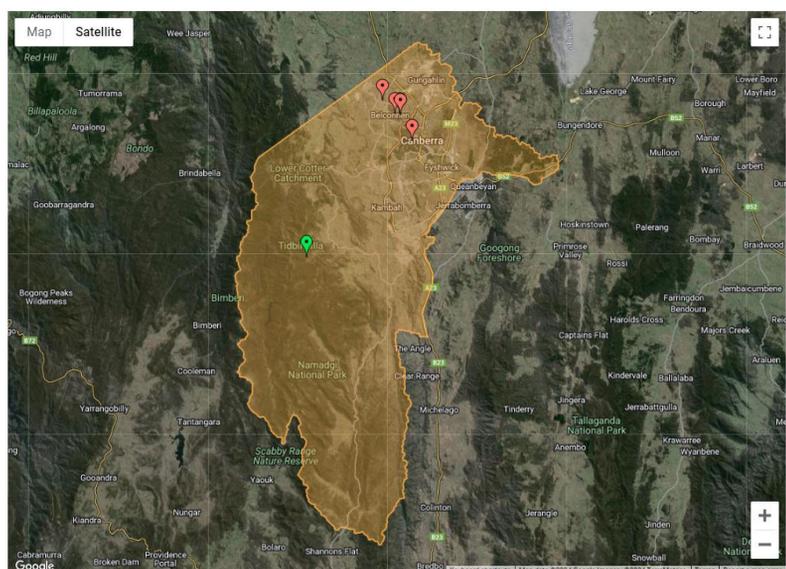
Local government area:

Date observed from:

Only records from this group:

Include only my records:

Displays results as:  Map only  Table only  Both map and table



Weed records can be filtered by priority weed species, state or territory, local government area or date range. Records cannot be filtered by date range alone.

Registered users can also display only their own records or records from their WeedScan group.

Result can be displayed as a map, table or both a map and table.

3. Explore the search results in the map or table.
4. To open a record and view more information, click on a **map pin** (map display) or a **record number #** (table display).
5. Records with a green pin have been verified by an expert.
6. Select export to create a CSV file containing metadata on the filtered observations.

## VIEW YOUR RECORDS

You can view all the records that you have created while logged in as a registered user, including those marked as private. Any records you created anonymously (while not logged in) will not be visible because they are not linked to your WeedScan account.

To view your own WeedScan records:

1. Log in to your WeedScan account.
2. Click **Search** at the top of the page or the **Search records** button on the WeedScan homepage.
3. Tick the **Include only my own records** check box, apply any search filters and click the **Search** button. (To display all of your records, do not apply any search filters.)
4. To open a record and view more information about the weed observation, click on a **map pin** (map display) or a **record number #** (table display).
5. The complete weed record (including links to weed information, non-generalised weed location, comments, and contributors details) is provided. To view a map of the weed's location, click the **Click here to see the location on Google maps** link. Click the **Close** button to return to the previous page.

### WeedScan weed species list

Weeds in WeedScan primarily include those considered a priority in one or more states or territories, with a focus on weeds that have the potential to be very damaging but are either not yet present, are still becoming established or may not have reached their full potential distribution. WeedScan also includes some widespread environmental, agricultural and nuisance weeds.

Weed names in **bold** have not yet been included in the weed matching model but they are slated to be included in future models.

Keyword Search	<input type="text"/>
Weed Status	All 
Weed Type	All 
Lifeform	All

Close

Primary Common Name ▲	Scientific Name
Afghan melon	Citrullus lanatus
African boxthorn	Lycium ferocissimum
African daisy	Senecio pterophorus
<b>African feathergrass</b>	Cenchrus caudatus
African lovegrass	Eragrostis curvula
<b>African olive</b>	Olea europaea subsp. cuspidata
African rue	Peganum harmala
African thistle	Berkheya rigida
<b>African turnip weed</b>	Erucastrum austroafricanum
Aleppo pine	Pinus halepensis
Alisma	Alisma lanceolatum
Alisma plantago-aquatica	Alisma plantago-aquatica
Alkali sida	Malvella leprosa
Alligator plant	Kalanchoe x houghtonii
Alligator weed	Alternanthera philoxeroides
American nightshade	Solanum americanum

## ACCESS RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

To access a range of useful resources to help you use the WeedScan web application, click on **Resources** at the top of the page.

To access information about the priority weed species that WeedScan has been trained to identify:

1. Go to <https://weedscan.org.au/Weeds> or click **Weeds** at the top WeedScan homepage.
2. Click on the weed species that you are interested in.
3. Explore information about the weed including:
  - short taxonomic description
  - example images
  - links to national and state profiles for specific information relevant to your location.