

Fountain Grass

(*Cenchrus setaceus*)

- Perennial grass similar to Buffelgrass but has only been found at far eastern end of BMGR East within mountainous terrain
- Please report all sightings!



Identification

- Grows up to 3 feet high with bottlebrush flower stalks of pink or purple color, turning brown as seeds are set
- Has been used as ornamental for landscaping

Globe Chamomile

(*Oncosiphon piluliferum*)

- Well-established in Phoenix. Not yet known to occur at BMGR East
- Grows quickly following winter rains
- Please report all sightings and pull plants, if possible!



Identification

- Small, distinct, round, yellow flower clusters
- Has a vile odor. Also called "Stinknet"
- Dark green "carrot-like" foliage

Invasive Weeds Threaten the Military Mission by

- Increasing fuel loads and fire hazards
- Altering Sonoran Desert habitat, which is vital for training
- Impacting native wildlife, which may lead to increased environmental restrictions
- Competing with native plants for nutrients
- Inhibiting movement of sensitive animals (e.g. desert tortoise) and displacing wildlife forage

How to Respond & Report:

- Follow specific guidelines under each species
- To report: include location (with GPS point, if possible), species, and approximate number of plants. Email to POC below
- Pull it out. If you find small numbers of plants, please help by pulling plants by roots, securing in plastic bag, and disposing in the landfill.
- Identification help needed? Email photos (show leaves and flowers, if possible) to POC below

56 RMO Environmental POC:
56RMO.ENV@us.af.mil
623-856-8491

Photos: Rick Whittle, Jessica White, Calflora.org, Save our Saguaros, Neil Kittleson

Barry M. Goldwater
Range East



How to Identify
& Report
Invasive Weeds

Help Sustain our Ranges!

Buffelgrass

(Cenchrus ciliaris)

- Well-established perennial grass that is expanding along highway 85 corridor
- Expanding primarily through washes
- Plants found away from highway 85 corridor and within BMGR East should be reported to 56 RMO



Identification

- After good rains, plants will be green and lush but dry out to a straw color
- Distinct bottlebrush flower that can range from reddish-brown (young seeds) to tan color (mature seeds)
- Small hairs are found at the base of the leaf where it diverges from the stem (ligule)

Sahara Mustard

(Brassica tournefortii)

- Well-established annual plant. Found along most roads and within manned & tactical ranges
- Grows rapidly following winter rainfall
- Large infestations that are away from roads should be reported. Not necessary to report small numbers of plants



Identification

- Nearly leafless stems grow from center of plant
- Small yellow flowers appear before producing seed pods
- Mature plants dry up and may break off forming a tumbleweed



Prepared by 56 RMO

Bitter Cucumber

(Citrullus colocynthis)

- Newly invasive in Arizona. Currently known to occur at the Gila Bend Auxiliary Field, Range 1 road, & NTAC East Perimeter road
- Please report all sightings!



Identification

- Low-growing vine with small yellow flowers
- Produces small gourd fruit (starts greenish and turns to yellowish brown as it matures)
- May be confused with native Coyote Gourd but leaves are distinct (see photo below)

