

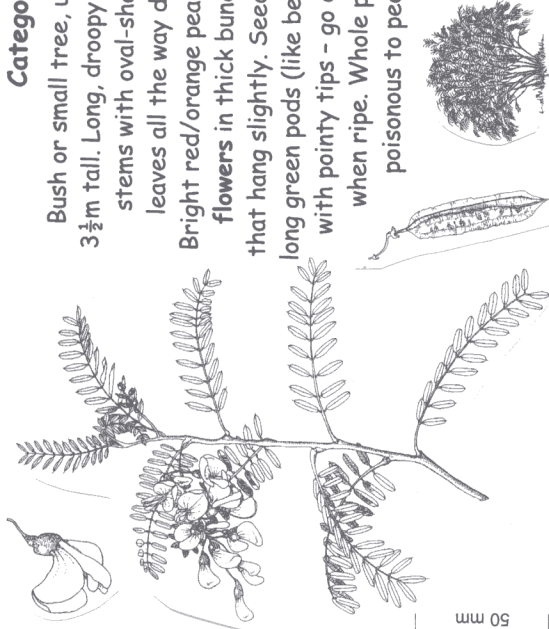
Red sesbania

(*Sesbania punicea*)

Category 1

Bush or small tree, up to 3½m tall. Long, droopy leaf stems with oval-shaped leaves all the way down.

Bright red/orange pea-like flowers in thick bunches that hang slightly. Seeds in long green pods (like beans) with pointy tips - go dark when ripe. Whole plant poisonous to people!



Invades rivers & streams, sides of roads, forests & plantations, & disturbed ground.

Inkberry

(*Cestrum laevigatum*)

Category 1

Bush or tree 2-15m high. Soft dark green leaves - strong bad smell when squashed. Flowers light green-yellow, slender trumpet shape. Long oval shaped berries are green, then turn dark like olives when ripe. Whole plant poisonous to people!



Invades rivers & streams, sides of roads, forests & plantations, & disturbed ground.

Giant reed

(*Arundo donax*)

Category 1

Large untidy reed 2-6m high. Light green / grey-green leaves with soft points (indigenous reed has sharp point). Stems are strong, but can bend.

Flowers look like pampas grass, but smaller and more compact.



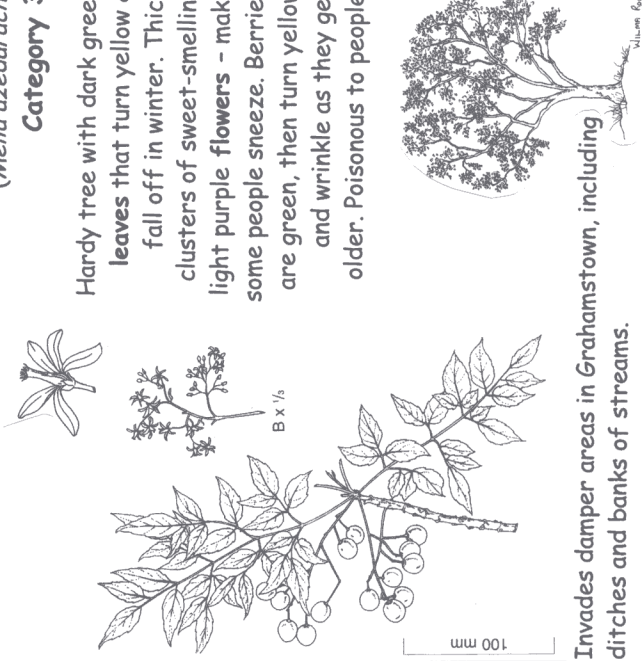
Invades banks of rivers & streams, but can also grow far from water.

Syringa / umserinyeni/isingere

(*Melia azedarach*)

Category 3

Hardy tree with dark green leaves that turn yellow & fall off in winter. Thick clusters of sweet-smelling light purple flowers - make some people sneeze. Berries are green, then turn yellow and wrinkle as they get older. Poisonous to people!



Invades damper areas in Grahamstown, including ditches and banks of streams.

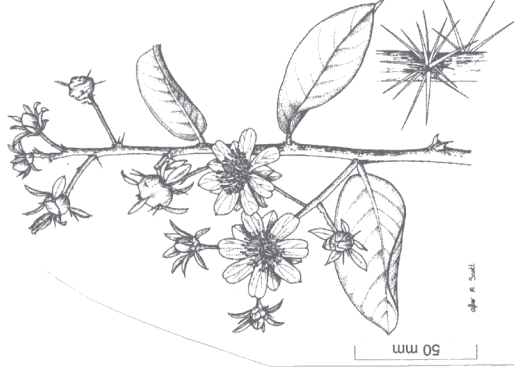
Pereskia/Barbados gooseberry

(*Pereskia aculeata*)

Category 1

Spiny, succulent creeper that looks like bougainvillea. Young stems are succulent, with short, hooked spines where the leaf stalk joins the stem.

Old stems are woody with clusters of hard, straight spines. Bright green, glossy leaves. White/yellowish flowers smell like lemon. Large, juicy berries (size of 20 cent coin) green, then yellow when ripe.



Invades riverbanks, sides of roads & forests.

Belhambra / isidungamsi

(*Phytolacca dioica*)

Category 3

Large tree, 12-20m, mostly evergreen. Short, thick trunk with many branches, and strong buttressed roots. Bright green leaves on pinkish stalks.

Creamy yellow flowers on long stalks, hang down. Fruit green, turning dark when ripe - look like big, hard mulberries.



Invades riverbanks, forests & bush, sides of roads & open areas in town.

More info: Henderson, L. 2001. *Alien weeds and invasive plants. A complete guide to declared weeds and invaders in South Africa*. PPRI Handbook No. 12. Agricultural Research Council.