

When mapping invasive plants, what counts as an “infestation”? And when should an area be described as “infested”? These questions are the topic of recurring discussions in invasive plant mapping circles so it was no surprise that they recently came up on the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) listserv in mid-February. What was surprising was the

About one third of respondents felt that “infested acres” is an ambiguous term that is defined in many ways, about a third felt that “infested acres” is a useful measure but that a percent cover value



in an acre, an acre covered with weeds or all the lands threatened with invasion from an existing infestation? This definition provides a consistent and common method of describing weed populations. This is the data field that will be used to sum and report weed acres across all ownerships.

Infested Area is a required field in the NAWMA Standards while Gross Area is an optional field. Gross Area can also be thought of as