



## Influence of *Prosopis Juliflora* Invasion on Livelihood Activities of Agro pastoralists in Arabsiyo district, Somalia

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### ARTICLE INFORMATION

### ABSTRACT

*Prosopis juliflora*, an evergreen tree/bush, is one of the most invasive species in arid and semi-arid areas. Since its introduction to Arabsiyo district of Somaliland (1980s), it has invaded a huge amount of grasslands, rangelands and farmlands. These lands are life supporting for Arabsiyo agro pastoralists through provision of farm, pastures and ecological goods. The invasion of *P. juliflora* made crop production and livestock rearing difficult; which ultimately affects the Arabsiyo agro pastoral livelihoods. This necessitated carrying out the current study to investigate the influence of *P. juliflora* invasion on agro pastoral livelihoods in Arabsiyo district. The study was guided by the following objectives; to understand agro pastoralist's perception about the *P. juliflora* invasion, to assess the influence of *P. juliflora* invasion on the pastoral livelihoods and assess the influence of *P. juliflora* invasion on the arable farming livelihoods.

Key informant Interview, focus group discussion and questionnaire survey of 365 households in 2 villages were used for data collection. The result showed majority of the respondents perceive *P. juliflora* are undesirable plant which has brought misery in their lives. The respondents indicated *P. juliflora* had led to decrease in pasture for the animals and production of milk. The study further found out that *P. juliflora* had resulted to decrease in arable land hence leading low crop production further worsening the food security situation. The study recommends that maximum utilization of the plant should be encouraged rather than condemning it as a useless plant and applying different controlling mechanisms simultaneously; a combination of uprooting the seedling, cutting, and burning the plant and animal dung might be a better way of controlling the expansion.

Key Words: *Prosopis Juliflora*, Agro pastoralists, Arabsiyo district, Somalia



*Prosopis Juliflora*

**To cite this article:** *Abdirizak Mohamed Ali (2019)* Influence of *Prosopis Juliflora* Invasion on Livelihood Activities of Agro pastoralists in Arabsiyo district, Somalia, Journal of Somali Natural Resources, VOL: 04, 2019 <https://sonrrec.org>