

# Grower Survey: Summary of Findings

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## Nurseries and Invasive Plants Cal-IPC, June 2004

### What we did

Cal-IPC surveyed catalogs and recent availability lists from 25 wholesale nurseries. These covered a broad range in size. The survey looked for 52 plant species, a subset from the Cal-IPC list of known invaders in California's wildlands selected as the most likely to be found in the trade. We also looked for horticultural varieties of these species, but tracked them separately. There were 13 species with horticultural varieties.

### Results

Of 25 nurseries, 18 carried at least one of the species, and of the 7 that did not, 4 carried at least one variety. Thus, there were 3 nurseries that did not sell any of the species or their hybrids.

The average number of invasive plant species sold by a nursery was 3.2 (out of 52 species), and the average number of species whose varieties are sold by a nursery was 2.3 (out of 13 species with varieties). The highest number of invasive plants sold by any one nursery was 14. The highest number of species whose varieties are sold was 9.

Of the 52 plants, 20 were not sold in any of the nurseries. The average number of nurseries carrying each of the other 32 plants was 2.5 (out of 25 nurseries). All 13 species with varieties were sold by at least one nursery. The average number of nurseries carrying a given species with varieties was 4.5. The highest number of nurseries selling any plant was 7 for *Hedera helix*, followed by 5 for *Cortaderia selloana*, *Cotoneaster pannosa*, and *Schinus molle*. The highest number of nurseries selling any variety was 12 for *Pennisetum setaceum*, followed by 9 for *Hedera helix*, and 7 for *Cortaderia selloana* and *Vinca major*.

The 32 plants found for sale are listed below. Following this list is a list of the species with varieties for sale. Percentage figures represent the portion of nurseries selling each plant or its varieties.

### Invasive plants for sale in nurseries:

- Hedera helix* (English ivy) 28%
- Cortaderia selloana* (pampasgrass) 20%
- Cotoneaster lacteus* (cotoneaster) 20%
- Schinus molle* (California pepper tree, Peruvian pepper tree) 20%
- Helichrysum petiolare* (licorice plant) 16%
- Ilex aquifolium* (English holly) 16%
- Lupinus arboreus* (bush lupine) 16%
- Pennisetum setaceum* (fountain grass) 16%
- Sapium sebiferum* (Chinese tallow tree) 16%

*Schinus terebinthifolius* (Brazilina pepper tree) 16%  
*Vinca major* (periwinkle) 16%  
*Elaeagnus angustifolia* (Russian olive) 12%  
*Iris pseudacorus* (yellow flag iris) 12%  
*Arctotheca calendula* (cape weed) 8%  
*Cytisus scoparius* (Scotch broom) 8%  
*Hypericum perforatum* (St. John's wort) 8%  
*Mentha pulegium* (pennyroyal) 8%  
*Olea europaea* (olive) 8%  
*Arundo donax* (giant reed) 4%  
*Cotoneaster pannosa* 4%  
*Crataegus monogyna* (hawthorn) 4%  
*Eichhornia crassipes* (water hyacinth) 4%  
*Ficus carica* (edible fig) 4%  
*Foeniculum vulgare* (fennel) 4%  
*Myoporum laetum* (myoporum) 4%  
*Myriophyllum aquaticum* (Eurasian watermilfoil) 4%  
*Retama monosperma* (bridal broom) 4%  
*Ricinus communis* (castor bean) 4%  
*Robinia pseudoacacia* (black locust) 4%  
*Sesbania punicea* (scarlet wisteria tree) 4%  
*Spartium junceum* (Spanish broom) 4%  
*Tamarix ramosissima* (salt cedar) 4%

Varieties of invasive plants for sale in nurseries:

*Pennisetum setaceum* varieties 48%  
*Hedera helix* varieties 36%  
*Cortaderia selloana* varieties 28%  
*Vinca major* varieties 28%  
*Olea europaea* varieties 20%  
*Robinia pseudoacacia* varieties 16%  
*Myoporum laetum* varieties 12%  
*Helichrysum petiolare* varieties 12%  
*Ficus carica* varieties 12%  
*Ilex aquifolium* varieties 8%  
*Foeniculum vulgare* varieties 4%  
*Cytisus scoparius* varieties 4%  
*Arundo donax* varieties 4%