

# California Invasive Plant Inventory


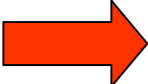


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# The Update

- Updates 1999 Cal-EPPC List of Exotic Pest Plants of Ecological Concern in California
- More than twice as many plants evaluated (approx. 240)
- New criteria system using 13 questions, with cited documentation for each species

# The Process

1. Species nominated by weed workers around the state
  2. Literature search
  3. Plant Assessment Form (PAF) completed by volunteers or Cal-IPC staff
  4. Additional information solicited as needed
  5. Committee reviews scores, assigns ratings
  6. PAFs posted on Cal-IPC website
-  Review draft distributed to Cal-IPC members (in symposium packets)
-  Final copy to be printed early 2006

# Review Committee

- Carla Bossard, St. Mary's College of CA
- Matt Brooks, USGS
- Joe DiTomaso, UC Davis
- John Randall, The Nature Conservancy
- Cynthia Royce, CA State Parks
- Jake Sigg, CA Native Plant Society
- Alison Stanton, BMP Ecosciences
- Peter Warner, CA State Parks

# Criteria

## Section 1 - Impacts

- Abiotic impacts
  - Fire, hydrology, erosion/sedimentation, etc.
- Impacts to native plant community
  - Higher score if affects endangered species
- Impacts to wildlife
  - Vertebrates or invertebrates
- Genetic impacts
  - Potential for hybridization with native species

# Criteria

## Section 2 - Invasiveness

- Ability to establish without human or natural disturbance
- Local rate of spread
- Recent trend in infested area
- Reproductive potential
- Potential for human-caused dispersal
- Potential for natural dispersal >1km
- Other areas invaded worldwide

# Criteria

## Section 3 - Distribution

- Ecological amplitude
  - Range of habitats invaded in California
  - Grasslands, woodland, chaparral, estuaries, etc.
- Extent of infestation
  - Based on greatest extent of infestation in any one habitat type



# Documentation

- Allows for verification of information on assessments
  - Reviewed scientific publication
  - Other published information
    - Reports, theses
  - Observations by trained observers
  - Anecdotal information
- Reported as average for all questions on printed list



# Results

HIGH.....38 species

MODERATE.....85

LOW.....61

Native to part of California,  
but invasive in other parts  
of the state..... 4

Evaluated But Not Listed .....52

Nominated But  
Dismissed Without Review.....14

**TOTAL** **254 species**

# Uses for the Inventory

- Inform the public about invasive plants
- Help land managers prioritize control efforts
- Assist those who comment on environmental documents
- Provide documentation to remove invasive plants from the horticultural trade

# What's Next?

- Write report on research gaps for invasive plants in California
  - *In progress, plan to finish in spring 2006*
- Improve documentation of infestations
  - *Mapping project in progress*
  - *Survey of weed workers planned for 2006*
- Develop interactive database for website
  - *Applying for funding*
- Publish management handbook for High and Moderate plants

# **What Can Cal-IPC Members Do?**

- Volunteer to be a weed mapping contact for your county
- Submit observations and photographs on plants that lack published information
- Come to the Invasive Plant Inventory working group on Friday to have your questions answered