



Weed Alert!

Dean G. Kelch

Primary Botanist

California Department of Food and Agriculture



Italian buckthorn *Rhamnus alaternus*

Native to S. Europe

Common in hort.

Mostly as waif

Dioecious

Spreading @

Southampton

Marsh, Solano Co.





Buffelgrass *Cenchrus ciliaris* (*Pennisetum ciliare*)

Widely planted in Mexico and AZ as a forage grass in desert areas

Has proven highly invasive in Sonoran desert

May spread to cooler deserts

Perennial grass

Promotes fire

Now Noxious Weed in AZ

Can spread in desert forage

In CA listed as crop seed in reg





Goatweed (*Ageratum conyzoides*)

Native to S America

Came in as nursery stock weed

Widespread tropical weed

Only found once in CA in a yard

Too dry for it to spread?



Minghong



Corn snapdragon (*Antirrhinum orontium*)

Annual herb w/ pink fls

Native to Europe

Reported as naturalized in 6 Cos.

Responds to fire or
other disturbance

Can be dominant





Pickerelweed

Pontederia cordata

Emergent perennial
herb

Native to E NA

Grown as a pond plant

Sometimes washes
downstream

Usually found as a waif

Forms large clumps

May need cross pollination for seed





Flowering Rush

Butomus umbellatus

Appears as cardboard boxed “root”
along with waterlilies

Highly invasive in cool climates in
wetland edges

Listed as noxious in several northern
states

Given a “B” in CA





Thorny broom (*Calicotome spinosa*)

Discovered N of Pasadena along road

Similar to other brooms

Native to W Mediterranean

Invaded in Australia & NZ

Very thorny

Likely fire promoting





Licorice plant (*Helichrysum petiolare*)

Perennial herb that forms sprawling clumps

Very commonly sold in nurseries as a container plant

Invasive on Mt Tamalpais in scrub

Elsewhere along coast?





Alligatorweed (*Alternanthera philoxeroides*)

Noxious weed
Perennial aquatic herb
Mats quite dense
Spreads vegetatively in US
Known from 4 Cos. in SoCal
Recently found in Delta in
Solano & Sac Cos.





Stink Bean (*Paraserianthes [Albizzia] lophantha*)

A small, fast growing tree
Invasiveness likely but unknown
Very few vouchers
But found all along coast
Definitely established
From S Am





Ruby Salt Bush

(Enchylaena tomentosa)

A perennial shrub from Australia
Fruits are fleshy, red
2 sites in SD Co
Yard in Riverside Co
Slow but starting to spread

