**BACKGROUND**

PlantRight’s annual Spring Nursery Survey tracks the retail market for invasive garden plants in California.

**METHODOLOGY**

- 85 trained volunteers
- 190 stores
- 38 counties

**PLANTS IN 2021 SURVEY**

- Highway Iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*)
- Pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*)
- Green fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*)
- Periwinkle (*Vinca major*)
- Water hyacinth (*Eichhornia crassipes*)
- Yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
- Mexican feathergrass (*Stipa tenuissima*)

**CANDIDATE PLANTS**

- Licorice plant (*Helichrysum petiolare*)
- Petite licorice (*Plecostachys serpyllifolia*)
- Italian buckthorn (*Rhamnus alaternus*)

**RESULTS**

- In 2017, 29% of nurseries surveyed were selling locally invasive plants; this rate dropped to 20% in 2021.
- Of the nurseries that were selling any locally invasive plants in 2021, only 6% had more than one species of invasive plant for sale (down from 2017, 8%).
- Not a single locally invasive plant was found in a box store in 2021.
- Independent retailers showed a solid decrease in stores selling locally invasive plants, from 53% in 2017 to 30% in 2021.
- Locally invasive plants were most often found in the desert (25% of stores had at least one for sale), followed by the South Coast (24%), North and Central Coast (19%), and Sierra and Coastal Mtns (14%).

**DISTRIBUTION OF SURVEYED STORES**

- Invasive Highway Iceplant
- Invasive Green Fountain Grass
- Invasive Pampas Grass

**PERCENT OF STORES SELLING INVASIVE PLANTS**

- **COHORT 1**
  - ALL PLANTS (COHORT 1 & 2)
  - 2014: 6%
  - 2015: 12%
  - 2016: 27%
  - 2017: 31%
  - 2021: 29%
- **COHORT 2**
  - 2014: 24%
  - 2015: 26%
  - 2016: 51%
  - 2017: 48%
  - 2021: 47%
- **ALL PLANTS (COHORT 1 & 2)**
  - 2014: 44%
  - 2015: 40%
  - 2016: 35%
  - 2017: 30%
  - 2021: 26%

**PERCENT OF STORES SELLING INVASIVE PLANTS BY RETAIL TYPE**

- 2016: 6%
- 2017: 3%
- 2021: 0%

- Big Box: 26% (N=19), 48% (N=25), 51% (N=146)
- Small Chain: 47% (N=17), 53% (N=105)
- Independent: 0% (N=123), 47% (N=68)