

Vermont Invasive Exotic Plant Evaluation Worksheet

1. Scientific name of species (include family): _____

2. Common name(s) of species: _____

3. Name of person filling out form: _____

Affiliation: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____

4. Date: _____

5. Current status in Vermont:

Class A Noxious Weed

Class B Noxious Weed

Federal Noxious Weed List

Watch List - Potentially Invasive

No current status

6. Proposed status in Vermont:

Class A Noxious Weed

Class B Noxious Weed

Federal Noxious Weed List

Watch List - Potentially Invasive

No current status

7. Description (also identify variety, cultivar, etc. and attach photo, drawing and/or herbarium specimen):

8. Native origin of plant (include continent, country, and general area (e.g. western U.S.) etc. as well as approximate date and source of introduction to areas outside native range in the US or VT, if known):

9. Current range in Vermont (attach additional sheets if necessary):

Is the species present in the wild in Vermont?

Yes (please answer the following questions)

No (**Go to section 10**)

Name of county(s) where plant occurs: _____

Name of town(s) where plant occurs: _____

More precise location(s) if known: _____

Summarize existing distribution and abundance across the state.

Does the population appear to be stable, expanding, or decreasing?

10. Potential for spread to or within VT:

If the plant species does not yet occur in VT, where are the closest known populations occurring in natural communities? (list states or provinces, and locations within the states or provinces if known)

Is the plant species currently being sold or purposely introduced in VT through any of the trades or activities listed below? Check all that apply. If unknown, leave blank.

aquarium

nursery/landscaping

water gardening

wetland mitigation/restoration

nurseries, floral retailers, etc.

wildlife food/habitat

erosion control/soil stabilization

wastewater treatment

fishing (bait), packing material

sold in VT by in-state retailers

shipped to VT via mail order or online catalogues

other (explain)

For species that are already spreading on their own in VT, or are likely to spread on their own once introduced, describe the mechanism(s) by which population expansion occurs.

11. Check the box(es) which most accurately describe the type of habitat/area the species invades or is likely to invade:

Intensively managed areas:

roadside	agricultural land
ditch	pasture
gravel pit	lawn/suburban landscape
farm pond	ornamental pond

other (describe)

Natural areas or minimally managed habitats:

forest/woodland	sugarbush
old field	transitional field
floodplain forest	lakeshore/streambank
upland meadow	lake/pond
cliff/outcrop	marsh
river/stream	swamp
right of way	
other (explain):	

Additional comments:

12. Current and potential impacts:

(A) Innate ability of species to become invasive (check all boxes that apply)

matures quickly, short generation time
high reproductive rate (vegetative or seed)
readily dispersed naturally (wind, water, or wild animals)
readily dispersed long distances by humans (recreation, nursery trade, transportation corridors, construction, agriculture, etc.)
tolerant of a wide range of environmental conditions (shade, drought, etc.)
persists over a long time period
do not know
other

Summarize specific details about plant qualities that make it invasive. Include references.

(B) Impacts on ecosystems (check all boxes that apply)

alters ecosystem processes (succession, nutrient cycle, fire regime, sedimentation rate, etc.)

out competes native vegetation, dominates natural community

reduces or eliminates resources (food, cover, nesting)

threatens rare, threatened or endangered species

do not know

hosts insects or diseases that impact native and/or agricultural plants

other

Summarize details about this plant's specific impacts on the ecosystem. Include references.

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(C) Impacts to humans and infrastructure (check all boxes that apply)

impairs human use of natural resource (recreation, aesthetics)

is toxic or capable of causing physical injury

hosts insects that carry diseases that impact humans or livestock

has negative impacts on infrastructure (water supply, etc.)

do not know

other

Summarize details about this plant's specific impacts on human health and infrastructure. Include references.

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(D) Are there any positive effects the plant has on ecosystems or to humans and/or infrastructure? If yes, explain.

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13. Feasibility of control and spread prevention (attach additional sheets if necessary):

(A) What practical control measures are available?

(B) Is control or eradication feasible? Please explain at the *state level* and at *site level*.

(C) What level of resources would be necessary to manage the population over both the short and long term? What are the costs per acre for managing this species? Include annual cost estimate if possible.

(D) What impact does this plant have or have the potential to have on natural resources based economies (logging, sugarmaking, recreation, tourism, agriculture, etc.)? Please share specific examples from Vermont, or other states (if possible).

(E) How would non-target species and people be impacted by a control program?

(F) What are the **ecological** ramifications of leaving the growth of this species unchecked?

(G) How do costs change if the infestations become heavy?

14. Regional and national perspective:

Is the sale, movement, cultivation, planting or importation of the species prohibited by law in other states or provinces? (name states or provinces if known)

Is the species on an “invasive plant list” in any other states or provinces? (name states or provinces if known, especially for those in the northeast US)

15. Include any pertinent references, especially those that contain information or data that may aid in ranking the species of concern: (**List each reference and include a 2-3 sentence summary of highlights.**)

16. Describe gaps in information that prevent the species from being evaluated and ranked:

17. Recommendations:

data available is inadequate to evaluate plant species at this time
data available is adequate, but no rank is recommended at this time
rank as Class A Noxious Weed
rank as Class B Noxious Weed
add to Watch List - Potentially Invasive Plant Species

Additional comments:

Definitions:

Class A Noxious Weed - Any noxious weed on the Federal Noxious Weed List (7 C.F.R. 360.200) or any noxious weed that is not native to the State, not currently known to occur in the State, and poses a serious threat to the State.

Class B Noxious Weed - Any noxious weed that is not native to the State, is of limited distribution statewide, and poses a serious threat to the State, or any other designated noxious weed being managed to reduce its occurrence and impact in the State.

Federal Noxious Weed List -

Watch List of Potentially Invasive Species -