

Georgia List of Exotic and Invasive Plants

List Description

The invasive plant list is separated into 4 categories, with one subcategory (see category definitions below). Species were ranked by EPPC members with input from other professionals and land managers. Detailed distribution information does not exist for many of these species, making it difficult to use demonstrable distribution data as a criterion for ranking a species. Efforts are underway to collect this distribution data and future revisions of the Georgia EPPC Invasive Species List will incorporate the data.

Category 1 - Exotic plant that is a serious problem in Georgia natural areas by extensively invading native plant communities and displacing native species.

Scientific Name

Ailanthus altissima (P. Mill.) Swingle

Albizia julibrissin Durazz.

Alternanthera philoxeroides (Mart.) Griseb.

Eichhornia crassipes (Mart.) Solms

Elaeagnus umbellata Thunb.

Hedera helix L.

Hydrilla verticillata (L. f.) Royle

Lespedeza bicolor Turcz.

Lespedeza cuneata (Dum.-Cours.) G. Don

Ligustrum sinense Lour.

Lonicera japonica Thunb.

Lygodium japonicum (Thunb. ex Murr.) Sw.

Melia azedarach L.

Microstegium vimineum (Trin.) A. Camus

Murdannia keisak (Hassk.) Hand.-Maz.

Paulownia tomentosa (Thunb.) Sieb. & Zucc. ex Steud.

Pueraria montana var. *lobata* (Willd.) Maesen & S. Almeida

Rosa multiflora Thunb. ex Murr.

Triadica sebifera (L.) Small

Wisteria sinensis (Sims) DC.

Common Name

tree-of-heaven

mimosa

alligatorweed

waterhyacinth

autumn-olive

English ivy

hydrilla

shrubby lespedeza

sericea lespedeza

Chinese privet

Japanese honeysuckle

Japanese climbing fern

chinaberry

Japanese stiltgrass

marsh dayflower

princesstree

kudzu

multiflora rose

Chinese tallowtree

Chinese wisteria

Category 1 Alert - Exotic plant that is a not yet a serious problem in Georgia natural areas, but that has significant potential to become a serious problem.

Scientific Name

Achyranthes japonica (Miq.) Nakai
Alliaria petiolata (Bieb.) Cavara & Grande
Arthraxon hispidus (Thunb.) Makino
Celastrus orbiculatus Thunb.
Fallopia japonica Sieb. & Zucc.
Imperata cylindrica (L.) Beauv.
Paederia foetida L.
Salvinia molesta D. S. Mitchell

Common Name

Japanese chaff flower
garlic mustard
small carpetgrass, joint-head grass
oriental bittersweet
Japanese knotweed
cogongrass
skunk-vine
giant salvinia

Category 2 - Exotic plant that is a moderate problem in Georgia natural areas through invading native plant communities and displacing native species, but to a lesser degree than category 1 species.

Scientific Name

Ardisia crenata Sims
Cinnamomum camphora (L.) J. Presl
Cynodon dactylon (L.) Pers
Dioscorea polystachya Turcz.
Egeria densa Planch.
Elaeagnus pungens Thunb.
Leucanthemum vulgare Lam.
Ligustrum japonicum Thunb.
Lonicera maackii (Rupr.) Herder
Miscanthus sinensis Anderss.
Myriophyllum aquaticum (Vell.) Verdc.
Nandina domestica Thunb.
Nasturtium officinale Ait. f.
Paspalum notatum Flueggé
Phyllostachys aurea Carr. ex A. & C. Rivière
Sesbania herbacea (P. Mill.) McVaugh

Common Name

coral ardisia
camphortree
bermudagrass
Chinese yam
Brazilian egeria
thorny olive
oxeye daisy
Japanese privet
Amur honeysuckle
Chinese silvergrass
parrotfeather
sacred bamboo
watercress
bahiagrass
golden bamboo
bigpod sesbania

<i>Sesbania punicea</i> (Cav.) Benth.	red sesbania
<i>Spiraea japonica</i> L. f.	Japanese spiraea
<i>Tamarix gallica</i> L.	French tamarisk
<i>Vinca major</i> L.	big periwinkle
<i>Vinca minor</i> L.	common periwinkle

Category 3 - Exotic plant that is a minor problem in Georgia natural areas, or is not yet known to be a problem in Georgia but is known to be a problem in adjacent states.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i> (L.) R. Br. ex DC.	sessile joyweed
<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i> (Maxim.) Trautv.	Amur peppervine
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i> L.	sweet vernalgrass
<i>Arundo donax</i> L.	giant reed
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i> DC.	Japanese barberry
<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i> (L.) L'Hér. ex Vent.	paper-mulberry
<i>Carduus nutans</i> L.	musk thistle
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i> L.	cornflower
<i>Clematis terniflora</i> DC	sweet autumn virginsbower
<i>Colocasia esculenta</i> (L.) Schott	coco yam, wild taro
<i>Daucus carota</i> L.	Queen Anne's lace, wild carrot
<i>Dioscorea alata</i> L.	winged yam
<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> L.	air-potato
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i> (Schrad.) Nees	weeping lovegrass
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i> (Schrad.) Nees	weeping lovegrass
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> (Turcz.) Hand.-Maz.	winter creeper
<i>Festuca arundinacea</i> Schreb.	tall fescue
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i> (L.) L.	tawny daylily
<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i> L.	rose of Sharon
<i>Lantana camara</i> L.	largeleaf lantana
<i>Lespedeza thunbergii</i> (DC.) Nakai	Thunberg lespedeza
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> W.T. Aiton	glossy privet
<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i> (Vahl) Blume	limnophila
<i>Liriope muscari</i> (Dcne.) Bailey	monkeygrass
<i>Lonicera fragrantissima</i> Lindl. & Paxton	sweet breath of spring
<i>Mahonia bealei</i> (Fortune) Carr.	leatherleaf mahonia

<i>Marsilea minuta</i> L.	dwarf waterclover
<i>Melilotus alba</i> Medikus	white sweetclover
<i>Melinis repens</i> (Willd.) Zizka	natalgrass
<i>Mentha x piperita</i> L. (pro sp.)	peppermint
<i>Morus alba</i> L.	white mulberry
<i>Mosla dianthera</i> (Buch.-Ham. ex Roxb.) Maxim.	miniature beefsteakplant
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i> Linnaeus	Eurasian watermilfoil
<i>Panicum repens</i> L.	torpedograss
<i>Paspalum urvillei</i> Steud.	vaseygrass
<i>Persicaria maculosa</i> S.F. Gray	ladysthumb
<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.	common reed
<i>Phragmites australis</i> (Cav.) Trin. ex Steud.	common reed
<i>Poa annua</i> L.	annual bluegrass
<i>Poncirus trifoliata</i> (L.) Raf.	trifoliolate orange
<i>Potamogeton crispus</i> L.	curlyleaf pondweed
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i> Dcne.	Callery pear (Bradford pear)
<i>Rottboellia cochinchinensis</i> (Lour.) W.D. Clayton	itchgrass
<i>Rubus armeniacus</i> Focke	Himalaya blackberry
<i>Securigera varia</i> (L.) Lassen	crownvetch
<i>Sesbania vesicaria</i> (Jacq.) Ell.	bagpod
<i>Solanum viarum</i> Dunal	tropical soda apple
<i>Sorghum halepense</i> (L.) Pers.	johnsongrass
<i>Stachys floridana</i> Shuttlw. ex Benth.	Florida betony
<i>Vernicia fordii</i> (Hemsl.) Airy-Shaw	tungoil tree

Category 4 - Exotic plant that is naturalized in Georgia but generally does not pose a problem in Georgia natural areas or a potentially invasive plant in need of additional information to determine its true status.

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Akebia quinata</i> (Houtt.) Dcne.	chocolate vine
<i>Allium vineale</i> L.	wild garlic
<i>Alysicarpus vaginalis</i> (L.) DC.	alyceclover
<i>Artemisia vulgaris</i> L.	mugwort
<i>Bidens bipinnata</i> L.	spanishneedles
<i>Bidens pilosa</i> L.	hairy beggarticks
<i>Bromus secalinus</i> L.	rye brome

<i>Bromus tectorum</i> L.	cheatgrass
<i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (Savi) Ten.	bull thistle
<i>Commelina benghalensis</i> L.	Benghal dayflower
<i>Commelina benghalensis</i> L.	Benghal dayflower
<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> (L.) Link	Scotch broom
<i>Euonymus alatus</i> (Thunb.) Sieb.	winged burning bush
<i>Fallopia sachalinensis</i> F. Schmidt ex Maxim.	Sakhalin knotweed
<i>Fatoua villosa</i> (Thunb.) Nakai	mulberryweed
<i>Firmiana simplex</i> (L.) W. Wight	Chinese parasol tree
<i>Ilex cornuta</i> Lindl. & Paxton	Chinese holly
<i>Ilex crenata</i> Thunb.	Japanese holly
<i>Ipomoea coccinea</i> L.	red morningglory
<i>Ipomoea cordatotriloba</i> var. <i>cordatotriloba</i> Dennst.	tievine
<i>Ipomoea purpurea</i> (L.) Roth	tall morningglory
<i>Jacquemontia tamnifolia</i> (L.) Griseb.	smallflower morningglory
<i>Kummerowia stipulacea</i> (Maxim.) Makino	Korean lespedeza
<i>Kummerowia stipulacea</i> (Maxim.) Makino	Korean lespedeza
<i>Kummerowia striata</i> (Thunb.) Schindl.	common lespedeza
<i>Kummerowia striata</i> (Thunb.) Schindl.	common lespedeza
<i>Liriope spicata</i> (Thunb.) Lour.	creeping liriope
<i>Najas minor</i> All.	brittleleaf naiad
<i>Orobanche minor</i> Smith	small broomrape
<i>Paspalum quadrifarium</i> Lam.	tussock paspalum
<i>Persicaria longiseta</i> (Bruijn) Kitagawa	Oriental lady's thumb
<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i> M. Roemer	scarlet firethorn
<i>Quercus acutissima</i> Carruthers	sawtooth oak
<i>Rosa laevigata</i> Michx.	Cherokee rose
<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i> Maxim.	wine raspberry
<i>Setaria faberi</i> Herrm.	giant foxtail
<i>Setaria pumila</i> (Poir.) Roemer & J.A. Schultes	yellow foxtail
<i>Setaria viridis</i> var. <i>viridis</i> (L.) P. Beauv.	green bristlegrass
<i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.) Hill	spiny sowthistle
<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> L.	annual sowthistle
<i>Torilis arvensis</i> (Huds.) Link	hedgearsley
<i>Verbascum thapsus</i> L.	common mullein

Verbena bonariensis L.

Verbena litoralis var. *brevibracteata* (Kuntze) N. O'Leary

Wisteria floribunda (Willd.) DC.

tall vervain

Brazil vervain

Japanese wisteria