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Predicting invasive plants in California

by Elizabeth D. Brusati, Douglas W. Johnson and Joseph M. DiTomaso

Preventing plant invasions or eradicating incipient populations is much less costly than confronting large well-established populations of invasive plants. We developed a preliminary determination of plants that pose the greatest risk of becoming invasive in California, primarily through the horticultural industry. We identified 774 species that are invasive elsewhere in Mediterranean climates but not yet invasive in California. From this list, we determined which species are sold through the horticulture industry, whether they are sold in California and whether they have been reported as naturalized in California. We narrowed the list to 186 species with the greatest potential for introduction and/or invasiveness to California through the horticultural trade. This study provides a basis for determining species to evaluate further through a more detailed risk assessment that may subsequently prevent importation via the horticultural pathway. Our results can also help land managers know which species to watch for in wildlands.

Plants have been transported around the world for centuries, as agricultural commodities, ornamental species or inadvertent contaminants of imported materials. Naturalized plants are those that have spread out of cultivated areas, including gardens, into more wild areas, and invasive plants are the subset of naturalized species that cause ecological or economic harm. In general, only a small proportion of plants introduced into a new region have been invasive plants. However, the number of invasive plants with horticultural origin is high, making it critically important to natural resource managers, ecologists and policymakers to predict which newly introduced species pose the greatest risk of escape and invasion.



Joseph M. DiTomaso

Giant reed (*Arundo donax*) infesting a wetland area in Southern California. Giant reed was introduced as both an ornamental and erosion control species and is now one of the most invasive species in the state.

The geographic diversity of California has led to broad evolution in native plants. California has approximately 3,400 species of native plants, of which 24% are found only in the state (Baldwin et al. 2012). However, California is also something of a hotspot for nonnative plants, with over 1,500 nonnative species naturalized, weedy in agricultural systems or invasive in natural areas (DiTomaso and Healy 2007). As a result, California not only faces a high risk of escape, establishment and invasion of introduced ornamental plants, but also has a high proportion of native species threatened by invasive plants.

Within California, there are two lists that identify invasive plants. First, based on 13 questions that assess impacts, invasiveness and distribution, the California Invasive Plant Council's list includes 214 species that cause ecological harm in the state's wildlands (Cal-IPC 2013). Approximately 63% of these species were deliberately introduced to California, mostly as ornamental plants (Bell et al. 2007). Second, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Noxious Weed List primarily lists plants that

cause, or have the potential to cause, economic damage to the state's agricultural industry; CDFA has legal authority to regulate plants on this list through Section 4500 of the California Code of Regulations (CDFA 2013). Because the criteria for these lists have a different focus, the listed species overlap but are not the same. Few species derived from the horticultural trade are included on the state Noxious Weed List.

The high number of invasive plants with horticultural origin makes it critically important to natural resource managers, ecologists and policymakers to predict which newly introduced species pose the greatest risk of escape and invasion.

The horticultural trade is one of the major pathways for invasive plants in California and elsewhere (Drew et al. 2010; Okada et al. 2007; Reichard and White 2001). For example, higher market frequency (as measured by availability in seed catalogs) and lower prices were shown to be good predictors of a plant's probability of invasion in Britain (Dehrens-Schmutz et al. 2007). Horticulture is also

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doi: 10.3733/ca.v068n03p89



After being introduced as an animal forage species, kudzu (*Pueraria montana*) escaped to invade forested areas in the southern United States. Kudzu is neither naturalized nor sold in California.

a major agricultural sector in California, accounting for \$2.5 billion in sales in 2011 (CDFA 2012).

The ability to predict potential invasiveness is important both for species that have already been introduced to a region but are not yet invasive and for species that may be introduced through the horticultural industry in the future. In both cases, prediction of invasiveness before it occurs can, through collaborative efforts with the nursery industry, lead to voluntary restrictions in sales, preventing the potential for damage should the species escape cultivation.

Knowing that a plant is invasive in one region can give insight into whether it might be problematic in another region, particularly if the two regions have similar climates. For woody ornamental species, for example, being invasive elsewhere was the single best predictor of potential invasiveness in a new region of introduction (Reichard and Hamilton 1997). In addition, Caley and Kuhnert (2006) showed that four variables were most important for screening potential invasive plants: human dispersal, naturalized elsewhere, invasiveness elsewhere and a high degree of domestication. Two of these variables, human dispersal and high degree of domestication, are characteristics of horticultural species.

California is one of five Mediterranean climate regions in the world, along with the Mediterranean Basin of Europe and northern Africa, central Chile, the Cape Region of South Africa and western Australia. All these regions are characterized by a winter rainy season and a summer dry season and are likely to share invasive species due to their similar climates.

The primary objective of this study was to identify ornamental species at high risk of becoming newly invasive in California. To develop this list, we

considered the single most important factor to be a species' invasiveness in other areas of the world with a similar Mediterranean climate or in a state neighboring California. While we recognize that this list is not comprehensive, we believe that it provides a good starting point for subsequently conducting risk assessments that could reduce the threat of introducing new invasive ornamentals to the state. This approach might also help determine which naturalized species should be monitored to see if they will become truly invasive.

Identifying potential invaders

Invasive plant data were collected through online databases and published lists from other regions with Mediterranean climates. We also used

established invasive plants reported from states neighboring California, including Arizona (Northam et al. 2005), Nevada (Nevada Department of Agriculture 2005) and Oregon (Oregon Department of Agriculture 2006). We included species on the California Noxious Weed List (CDFA 2007) as well as those that have been shown to invade wildlands (Cal-IPC 2013; personal communications with land managers in California).

Of the plants that have invaded other Mediterranean regions, we first removed species native to California and those already known to be invasive in wildland areas within the state. Then for each of the remaining plant species, we evaluated the Mediterranean-type region(s) invaded, location of origin, human uses (especially in horticulture) and whether the species was native, cultivated, naturalized or invasive in California (Baldwin et al. 2012; Cal-IPC 2013). For species already naturalized but not yet invasive in California, we determined the year they were first reported as naturalized based on the online Consortium of California Herbaria database (ucjeps.berkeley.edu/consortium/). In addition, we determined if plants are currently sold in the horticultural and ornamental trade in California using the

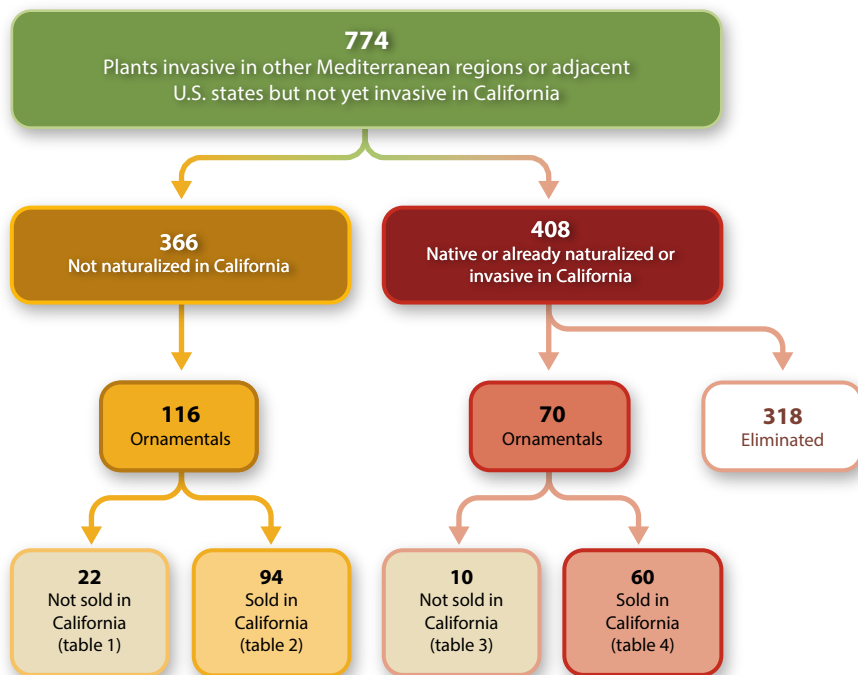


Fig. 1. Process used to determine the species with potential to become invasive in California through surveys of other Mediterranean climatic regions and adjacent U.S. states, with a focus on species sold as ornamentals. Tables 1 to 4 list these 186 species (22 + 94 + 10 + 60). The 318 eliminated species were eliminated because they are native to California, already invasive in California or have been naturalized in California since before 1940 without becoming invasive.

Sunset Western Garden Book (Brenzel 2007) and the *Plant Locator* (Hill and Narizny 2004), a directory of nurseries stocking particular species. While these references do not include all of the species available by mail order or via the Internet, they represent plants most commonly available in nurseries.

Which plants are likely threats?

Based on our criteria, we found 774 plants listed as invasive in other Mediterranean regions or adjacent states (fig. 1). Of these, 366 (47%) are not naturalized in California and therefore fit our focus on potential new invaders. Of the remaining 408 species (53%), we eliminated 318 species that did not fit our focus on new invaders: they were either native to California (Baldwin et al. 2012) or already invasive in California (DiTomaso and Healy 2007), or had naturalized in the state before 1940 without becoming invasive (Consortium of California Herbaria 2008). This left us with 90 species that naturalized after 1940.

We assumed that species that naturalized before 1940 and that have not yet become invasive in California are unlikely to become invasive in the future. Many of the naturalized species have been present in the state for over a century, with 20 recorded in the 1860s and 144 recorded before 1900. While we believe that 70 years of naturalization without significant spread and harm is sufficient to consider a species as having low potential for invasion, this may not be true for all species. There may be some instances where longer lag periods — a length of time when a species is present in natural areas before beginning to spread and cause ecological harm — could occur prior to rapid expansion of a species. Furthermore, the movement of ornamental plants is facilitated by humans, thus increasing the opportunity for introduction to suitable habitats. In addition to possibly increasing the potential for invasion by introduced plants, this facilitation could also reduce the time between introduction and invasion.

Next, we subdivided the 90 species that became naturalized after 1940 and the 366 species that are not naturalized in California based on whether they are sold as ornamentals. We also noted whether they are sold in California (fig. 1). Of the 90 naturalized species, 70 (78%)

are currently sold as ornamentals somewhere in the world, with 60 (67%) sold in California. Of the 366 nonnaturalized species in California, only 32% (116 species) were ornamentals. The majority of these species (94, or 81%) are currently

sold in California, while the other 22 are ornamentals not sold in the state. Thus, in total, we listed 186 species of ornamentals as the greatest concern for introduction and/or invasiveness to California through the horticultural pathway. This total

EUCALYPTUS

Fuel Dynamics, and Fire Hazard in the Oakland Hills

Eucalyptus trees were introduced to California from Australia in the 1850s and have become invasive in some coastal areas since then. In 1973, following a two-year study of eucalyptus stand densities, caloric content of fuel and dynamics of fuel accumulation in the Oakland Hills, researchers recommended a fuel reduction program. Eighteen years later, a firestorm in the Oakland Hills fueled by high winds and dense groves of freeze-damaged eucalyptus and pine trees killed 25 people and destroyed nearly 4,000 dwellings.

1973 “Eucalyptus has been a scenic and aromatic addition to the California landscape for over a century. The rapid growth of early plantations caught the eye of timber speculators around 1900 and millions of eucalyptus seedlings, predominately blue gum (*Eucalyptus globulus*) were planted. They soon covered the crest of the Berkeley-Oakland Hills, and have created a serious fire hazard since that time at the urban-wildland interface.

“... The late 1972 freeze has resulted in a proposed fuel management program for the Berkeley-Oakland Hills. Management of eucalyptus groves is an integral part of such a program. The results of this study indicate that fuel buildup occurs very rapidly in unmanaged eucalyptus stands, and to maintain low fuel levels a fuel reduction program should be implemented.”

Agee JK, et al. 1973. Eucalyptus fuel dynamics, and fire hazard in the Oakland hills. *Calif Agr* 27(9):13–5.

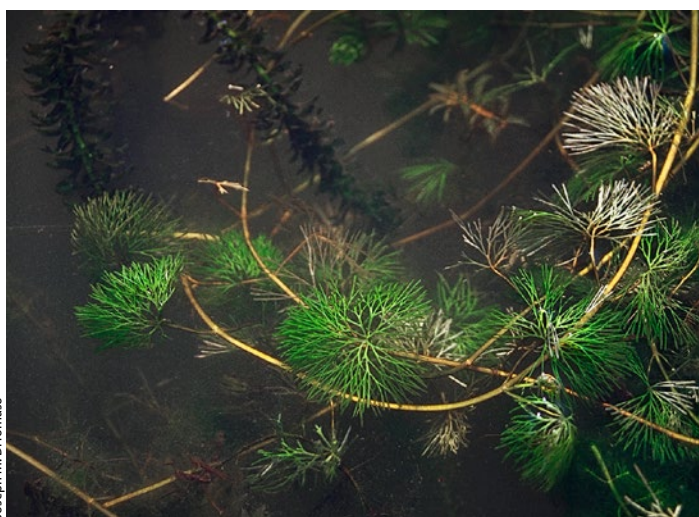
Of the article's four co-authors, the two research assistants went on to distinguished professorial careers in forestry and ecological sciences, James K. Agee at the University of Washington College of Forest Resources and Ronald H. Wakimoto at the University of Montana, Missoula.

Ellis F. Darley was a plant pathologist at UC Riverside and did pioneering work on the effects of air pollution on plants and on the overall environment. At UC Berkeley, Harold H. Biswell was professor of forestry and an early proponent of controlled burning for wildland fuel management. When he retired in 1973, UC awarded him the Berkeley Citation, its highest honor for distinguished achievement. In 1994, a symposium on “Fire Issues and Solutions in Urban Interface and Wildland Ecosystems” was held in his honor.

—W. J. Coats



A Celebration of Science and Service



Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*) is an invasive aquatic weed in California that was introduced through the aquarium industry.

TABLE 1. Species neither naturalized nor sold in California, but sold as ornamental plants elsewhere*

Family	Species	Common name
Asteraceae	<i>Ageratina riparia</i> (Regel) King & H. Rob.	Creeping croftonweed
	<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i> (D. Don) DC.	Senegal tea
	<i>Senecio angulatus</i> L.f.	Creeping groundsel
	<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i> (L.C. Rich.) Pruski	Wedelia
Crassulaceae	<i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i> (Lam.) Pers.	Cathedral bells
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia nilotica</i> (L.) Willd. ex Delile	Gum arabic tree
	<i>Albizia lebeck</i> (L.) Benth.	Woman's tongue
	<i>Caesalpinia decapetala</i> (Roth) Alston	Shoofly
	<i>Pueraria montana</i> (Lour.) Merr.	Kudzu
	<i>Senna pendula</i> (Humb. & Bonpl. ex Willd.) Irwin & Barneby	Valamuerto
Iridaceae	<i>Gladiolus undulatus</i> L.	Wild gladiolus
	<i>Moraea flaccida</i> (Sweet) Steud.	One-leaf Cape tulip
	<i>Moraea lewisiae</i> (Goldblatt) Goldblatt (= <i>Hexaglottis lewisiae</i> Goldblatt)	Cape tulip
	<i>Sparaxis bulbifera</i> (L.) Ker Gawl.	Wandflower
	<i>Watsonia versfeldii</i> J.W. Mathews & L. Bolus	Bugle-lily
Meliaceae	<i>Toona ciliata</i> Roem.	Australian redcedar
Polygalaceae	<i>Polygala virgata</i> Thunb.	Purple broom
Polygonaceae	<i>Rumex sagittatus</i> Thunb. [= <i>Acetosa sagittata</i> (Thunb.) L.A.S. Johnson & B.G. Briggs]	Rambling dock, garden sorrel
Proteaceae	<i>Hakea gibbosa</i> (Sm.) Cav.	Hairy or rock hakea
Salicaceae	<i>Salix fragilis</i> L.	Crack willow
Sapindaceae	<i>Cardiospermum grandiflorum</i> Sweet	Showy balloonvine
Solanaceae	<i>Cestrum laevigatum</i> Schtdl.	Inkberry

* Scientific and common names of nonweedy species in all tables are from the United States Department of Agriculture Plant Database (<http://plants.usda.gov/>) or Germplasm Resources Information Network (<http://www.ars-grin.gov/npgs/aboutgrin.html>). Plants considered naturalized in California wildlands are based on Baldwin et al. (2012). These tables do not include species that have been present in California since before 1940 without becoming invasive.

includes both those species currently sold and those that could be sold in the future (tables 1 to 4).

This study, however, did not take into consideration the potential effects of climate change on habitat suitability and plant invasions within California. It is possible that warmer temperatures or modified precipitation patterns due to climate change will allow some currently noninvasive ornamentals to spread and become invasive. However, predictions of the spread of invasive plants in the western United States indicate that

TABLE 2. Species sold as ornamentals in California but not yet naturalized in the state*

Family	Species	Common name
Acanthaceae	<i>Thunbergia grandiflora</i> Roxb.	Thunbergia, Bengal trumpet
Aceraceae	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> L.	Sycamore maple
Agavaceae	<i>Agave sisalana</i> Perrine	Sisal hemp
	<i>Yucca gloriosa</i> L.	Moundlily yucca
Aloaceae	<i>Aloe vera</i> (L.) Burm. f.	Barbados aloe
Asclepiadaceae	<i>Cryptostegia grandiflora</i> (Roxb. ex R. Br.) R. Br.	Palay rubbervine
	<i>Periploca graeca</i> L.	Silkvine
Asparagaceae (formerly Liliaceae)	<i>Asparagus africanus</i> Lam.	African asparagus
	<i>Asparagus plumosus</i> (Kunth) Jessop	Common asparagus fern
	<i>Asparagus scandens</i> Thunb.	Climbing asparagus fern
Asteraceae	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i> L.	Eastern baccharis
	<i>Coleostephus myconis</i> (L.) Reichenb.	Corn marigold
	<i>Schkuhria pinnata</i> (Lam.) Kuntze ex Thell.	Pinnate false-threadleaf
	<i>Solidago chilensis</i> Meyen	Brazilian arnica
Balsaminaceae	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i> Royle	Balsam, policeman's helmet
Bignoniaceae	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i> P. Beauv.	African tuliptree
Boraginaceae	<i>Echium vulgare</i> L.	Blueweed
Cactaceae	<i>Echinopsis spachiana</i> (Lem.) Friedrich & G.D. Rowley	Echinopsis, golden torch
	<i>Harrisia martini</i> (Labouret) Britt.	Mooncactus
	<i>Opuntia fulgida</i> Engelm. [= <i>Cylindropuntia fulgida</i> (Engelm.) F.M. Knuth]	Jumping cholla
	<i>Opuntia humifusa</i> Raf.	Spreading pricklypear
	<i>Opuntia imbricata</i> (Haw.) DC. [= <i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i> (Haw.) F.M. Knuth]	Walkingstick cholla, tree cholla
	<i>Opuntia microdasys</i> (Lehm.) N.E. Pfeiffer	Angel's-wings, bunny ears
	<i>Opuntia robusta</i> J.C. Wendl. ex Pfeiff.	Wheel cactus, silver dollar
	<i>Opuntia stricta</i> (Haw.) Haw.	Erect pricklypear
Cannabaceae	<i>Humulus japonicus</i> Sieb. & Zucc.	Japanese hops
Cannaceae	<i>Canna indica</i> L.	Indian shot
Caprifoliaceae	<i>Lycycteria formosa</i> Wall.	Himalayan honeysuckle
Casuarinaceae	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i> L. ex J.R. & G. Forst.	Australian-pine
Convolvulaceae	<i>Turbina corymbosa</i> (L.) Raf.	Christmasvine

while some will likely spread, others may contract their ranges (Bradley et al. 2009). Thus, it was not possible to determine the impact of climate change on all the species evaluated in this study.

Management implications

To reduce the sale of invasive plants in California, environmental groups,

scientists, government agencies and the horticulture industry are participating in the PlantRight partnership, a coalition that works with retail nurseries and growers on voluntary measures to reduce the sale of invasive plants and promote non-invasive alternatives (plantright.org); the authors serve on its steering committee. Specific guidelines or recommendations

could be established for the high-risk species we identified in tables 1 to 4 to minimize future introduction, establishment and invasion. Cooperative efforts can discourage the introduction of ornamental plants in other regions that are neither naturalized nor sold in California (table 1), and these plants also could be included in a cautionary list that would require

TABLE 2. Continued from previous page

Family	Species	Common name	Family	Species	Common name
Dryopteridaceae	<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i> (L.) C. Presl	Narrow swordfern	Pinaceae	<i>Pinus canariensis</i> C. Sm.	Canary Island pine
	<i>Nephrolepis exaltata</i> (L.) Schott	Swordfern, Boston fern		<i>Pinus elliotii</i> Engelm.	Slash pine
Ericaceae	<i>Erica arborea</i> L.	Briar root, tree heath		<i>Pinus nigra</i> Arnold	Austrian pine
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia polygonifolia</i> (L.) Small	Seaside sandmat		<i>Pinus patula</i> Schiede ex Schltdl. & Cham.	Jelecote pine, Mexican weeping pine
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia karroo</i> Hayne	Karoothorn		<i>Pinus pinaster</i> Aiton	Maritime pine
	<i>Acacia podalyriifolia</i> A. Cunn. ex G. Don	Pearl wattle	Poaceae	<i>Glyceria maxima</i> (Hartm.) Holmb.	Reed mannagrass
	<i>Acacia stricta</i> (Andrews) Willd.	Hop wattle		<i>Paspalum vaginatum</i> Sw.	Seashore paspalum
	<i>Cassia fistula</i> L.	Golden shower, senna	Polygonaceae	<i>Polygonum campanulatum</i> Hook. f.	Bellflower smartweed
	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> Roxb. ex DC.	Indian rosewood, Himalayan raintree	Proteaceae	<i>Hakea drupacea</i> (C.F. Gaertn.) Roem. & Schult.	Sweet hakea
	<i>Psoralea pinnata</i> L.	Blue psoralea, fountainbush		<i>Hakea salicifolia</i> (Vent.) B.L. Burt	Willow-leaved hakea
	<i>Retama raetum</i> (Forssk.) Webb & Berthel.	Weeping white broom		<i>Hakea sericea</i> Schrad. & J.C. Wendl	Needlebush, silky hakea
	<i>Senna alata</i> (L.) Roxb.	Emperor's candlesticks, candlebush	Rhamnaceae	<i>Rhamnus alaternus</i> L.	Italian buckthorn
	<i>Senna bicapsularis</i> (L.) Roxb.	Christmasbush		<i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i> Lam.	Indian jujube, Chinese apple
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus robur</i> L.	English oak	Rosaceae	<i>Cotoneaster divaricatus</i> Rehder & E.H. Wilson	Spreading cotoneaster
Iridaceae	<i>Ferraria crispa</i> Burm.	Black flag, starfish iris		<i>Cotoneaster glaucophyllus</i> Franch.	Cotoneaster
	<i>Freesia leichtlinii</i> F.W. Klatt [= <i>F. alba</i> (G.L. Mey.) Gumbel. x <i>F. leichtlinii</i>]	Freesia		<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> L. (species aggregate)	European blackberry
	<i>Moraea miniata</i> Andrews	Two-leaf Cape tulip	Malaceae/ Salicaceae	<i>Populus x canescens</i> (Aiton) Sm.	Gray poplar
Lamiaceae	<i>Plectranthus comosus</i> Sims.	Woolly coleus		<i>Populus deltoides</i> Marshall	Common cottonwood
Liliaceae	<i>Agapanthus praecox</i> Willd. subsp. <i>orientalis</i> (F.M. Leight.) F.M. Leight.	African lily, lily-of-the-nile		<i>Salix cinerea</i> L.	Large gray willow, pussy willow
	<i>Alstroemeria aurea</i> Graham	Peruvian-lily, alstroemeria	Scrophulariaceae	<i>Scrophularia auriculata</i> L.	Shoreline figwort
	<i>Asparagus densiflorus</i> (Kunth) Jessop	Sprenger's asparagus fern	Solanaceae	<i>Cestrum aurantiacum</i> Lindl.	Orange jessamine
	<i>Gloriosa superba</i> L.	Glory lily, flame lily		<i>Physalis peruviana</i> L.	Peruvian groundcherry
Meliaceae	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> A. Juss.	Neem		<i>Solanum pseudocapsicum</i> L.	Jerusalem-cherry
Myrsinaceae	<i>Ardisia crenata</i> Sims	Hen's eyes	Ulmaceae	<i>Celtis sinensis</i> Pers.	Chinese hackberry
Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus conferruminata</i>	Bushy yate	Verbenaceae	<i>Glandularia pulchella</i> (Sweet) Troncoso (= <i>Verbena tenuisecta</i> Briq.)	South American mock vervain
	<i>Eugenia uniflora</i> L.	Surinam cherry		<i>Stachytarpheta</i> spp.	Snakeweed
	<i>Psidium cattleianum</i> Sabine	Strawberry guava	Vitaceae	<i>Vitis riparia</i> Michx.	Riverbank grape
	<i>Psidium guajava</i> L.	Guava	Zingiberaceae	<i>Alpinia zerumbet</i> (Pers.) B.L. Burt. & R.M. Sm.	Shellplant
	<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i> Gaertn.(= <i>Eugenia myrtifolia</i> Sims)	Brush cherry		<i>Hedychium coronarium</i> J. Koenig	White ginger, garland-lily
Oleaceae	<i>Ligustrum sinense</i> Lour.	Chinese privet		<i>Hedychium flavescens</i> Carey ex Roscoe	Yellow ginger lily, cream garland-lily
	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> L.	European privet			
Onagraceae	<i>Oenothera drummondii</i> Hook.	Beach eveningprimrose			
Papaveraceae	<i>Argemone ochroleuca</i> Sweet	Pale Mexican pricklypoppy			

Based on Brenzel (2007) or Hill and Narizny (2004).

* These should be reviewed by the horticulture industry and also watched for any spread into wildlands.

TABLE 3. Plants already naturalized in California, but not sold as ornamentals in California

Family	Species	Common name
Asteraceae	<i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> (L.) Norlindh	Boneseed, bitou bush
Boraginaceae	<i>Heliotropium amplexicaule</i> Vahl	Clasping or blue heliotrope
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia paradoxa</i> DC.	Kangaroothorn
	<i>Acacia pycnantha</i> Benth.	Golden wattle
	<i>Cytisus multiflorus</i> (L'Hér.) Sweet	White spanishbroom
Iridaceae	<i>Romulea rosea</i> (L.) Eckl.	Rosy sandcrocus
Poaceae	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i> L.	Colonial bentgrass
Polygonaceae	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L.	Prostrate knotweed
Rosaceae	<i>Rubus ulmifolius</i> Schott	Elmleaf blackberry
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum mauritianum</i> Scop.	Woolly nightshade



Rosy sandcrocus (*Romulea rosea*), a fairly new invasive species along the central coast of California, was introduced as a garden ornamental.

TABLE 4. Plants naturalized in California and also sold as ornamentals in the state*

Family	Species	Common name	Family	Species	Common name
Aizoaceae	<i>Malephora crocea</i> (Jacq.) Schwantes	Coppery mesembryanthemum	Iridaceae	<i>Chasmanthe floribunda</i> (Salisb.) N.E. Br.	African cornflag
Apocynaceae	<i>Catharanthus roseus</i> (L.) G. Don	Pink periwinkle, Madagascar periwinkle	Lamiaceae	<i>Lavandula stoechas</i> L.	French lavender
	<i>Nerium oleander</i> L.	Oleander		<i>Salvia verbenaca</i> L.	Wild clary
Aponogetonaceae	<i>Aponogeton distachyos</i> L. f.	Cape pondweed	Malvaceae	<i>Hibiscus trionum</i> L.	Venice mallow
Arecaceae	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> L.	Date palm	Myrtaceae	<i>Eucalyptus cladocalyx</i> F. Muell.	Sugargum
Asphodelaceae (formerly Liliaceae)	<i>Kniphofia uvaria</i> (L.) Oken	Redhot poker	Oleaceae	<i>Ligustrum japonicum</i> Thunb.	Japanese privet
	<i>Coreopsis lanceolata</i> L.	Garden coreopsis		<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i> Ait.	Glossy privet
Asteraceae	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i> DC.	Mexican daisy, Latin American fleabane	Onagraceae	<i>Fuchsia magellanica</i> Lam.	Hardy fuchsia
	<i>Gazania linearis</i> (Thunb.) Druce	Treasureflower	Oxalidaceae	<i>Oxalis latifolia</i> Kunth	Broadleaf woodsorrel
	<i>Helianthus tuberosus</i> L.	Jerusalem artichoke	Papaveraceae	<i>Papaver somniferum</i> L.	Opium poppy
	<i>Osteospermum ecklonis</i> (DC.) Norl.	African daisy	Passifloraceae	<i>Passiflora tarminiana</i> Coppens & V.E. Barney	Banana passionfruit
	<i>Osteospermum fruticosum</i> (L.) Norl.	Trailing African daisy, shrubby daisybush		<i>Passiflora tripartita</i> (Juss.) Poir. var. <i>mollissima</i> (Kunth) Holm-Niesen & P.M. Jerg.	Banana passionfruit
Berberidaceae	<i>Berberis darwinii</i> Hook.	Darwin's berberis	Pinaceae	<i>Pinus halepensis</i> Mill.	Aleppo pine
Bignoniaceae	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> D. Don	Jacaranda, black poui		<i>Pinus pinea</i> L.	Italian stone pine
	<i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i> (L.) A. Gentry	Cat's claw creeper, catclaw-vine	Pittosporaceae	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i> (Thunb.) W.T. Aiton	Mock orange, Japanese cheesewood
Cabombaceae	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i> Gray	Fanwort		<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i> Vent.	Sweet pittosporum, Victorian box
Caprifoliaceae	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> Thunb.	Japanese honeysuckle	Poaceae	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i> (Schrader) Nees	Weeping lovegrass
Celastraceae	<i>Maytenus boaria</i> Molina	Mayten		<i>Pennisetum ciliare</i> (L.) Link	Buffelgrass
	<i>Hypericum androsaemum</i> L.	Sweet-amber	Polygalaceae	<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i> L.	Myrtle-leaf milkwort
Convolvulaceae	<i>Hypericum calycinum</i> L.	Aaron's beard, rose of Sharon	Proteaceae	<i>Grevillea robusta</i> A. Cunn. ex R. Br.	Silkoak
	<i>Ipomoea indica</i> (Burm. f.) Merr.	Blue morningglory	Ranunculaceae	<i>Clematis vitalba</i> L.	Old-man's-beard
Ebenaceae	<i>Diospyros lotus</i> L.	Persimmon, date plum	Rosaceae	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i> (Thunb.) Lindl.	Loquat
Fabaceae	<i>Acacia baileyana</i> F. Muell.	Bailey acacia, cootamundra wattle		<i>Rosa canina</i> L.	Dog rose
	<i>Acacia elata</i> A. Cunn. ex Benth.	Cedar wattle		<i>Rosa eglanteria</i> L. (= <i>Rosa rubiginosa</i> L.)	Sweetbriar rose
	<i>Dipogon lignosus</i> (L.) Verdc.	Okie bean	Salicaceae	<i>Populus nigra</i> L. var. <i>italica</i> DuRoi.	Black poplar, Lombardy poplar
	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> L.	Honey locust	Solanaceae	<i>Datura innoxia</i> P. Mill.	Pricklyburr
	<i>Senna didymobotrya</i> (Fresen.) Irwin & Barneby	African senna	Tamaricaceae	<i>Tamarix chinensis</i> Lour.	Five-stamen tamarisk
	<i>Senna multiglandulosa</i> (Jacq.) Irwin & Barneby	Glandular senna	Ulmaceae	<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i> Jacq.	Chinese elm
Geraniaceae	<i>Geranium lucidum</i> L.	Shining geranium		<i>Ulmus pumila</i> L.	Siberian elm
	<i>Geranium robertianum</i> L.	Herb-robert	Verbenaceae	<i>Lantana camara</i> L.	Lantana

*These may be considered for removal from the trade through discussions with the horticulture industry and also watched for further spread into wildlands.



Species introduced as ornamentals or forage species that have escaped cultivation in California include, left, Mexican daisy (*Erigeron karvinskianus*), Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*), buffelgrass (*Pennisetum ciliare*) and African daisy (*Osteospermum ecklonis*). While these species are not yet major problems in the state, some have become more serious invasive plants in other regions of the country.

full prescreening risk assessment before introduction to the state. Plants that are not naturalized in California but that are sold here (table 2) should be reviewed by the nursery industry to reduce their sale and also watched for any spread into wildlands. In addition, noninvasive ornamentals that serve the same purpose in a landscape (same plant shape, same color flowers, etc.) should be promoted as alternative options. Species that are naturalized but not yet sold in California (table 3) should be restricted from sale, and land managers should watch for their further spread. Finally, species that are both naturalized and also sold in California (table 4) may be considered for removal from the

trade and also watched by land managers for further spread into wildlands.

This list provides a good starting point for identifying plants, especially ornamental species, that are invasive in regions with similar climates to California and could become problematic here. However, additional steps are required to further understand the potential risk of invasion. In particular, a more detailed risk assessment should be conducted for each of the species we identified as being at high risk for future invasion. Several risk assessment protocols (e.g., DiTomaso et al. 2012; Koop et al. 2012; Reichard and Hamilton 1997) are available to prioritize the greatest potential threats to wildland

systems. Implementing these preventative approaches and establishing an early detection program to eradicate incipient populations of these targeted species are far less costly than attempting to manage or contain large well-established populations of invasive plants.

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