

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 www.mass.gov/agr



The Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List

Following is a list of plants for which importation and propagation is currently prohibited within the state of Massachusetts.

The original list of prohibited plants went into effect January 1, 2006. Certain species were subject to a phase-out period that expired on January 1, 2009. Three new species were added in February 2017. As of this date, the sale, trade, purchase, distribution and related activities for the species below, including all cultivars, varieties and hybrids, are not allowed:

Common Name	Scientific Name
aeginetia	<i>Aeginetia</i> spp.
African boxthorn	<i>Lycium ferrocissimum</i>
African couch grass	<i>Digitaria abyssinica</i> ; <i>D. scalarum</i>
African feathergrass	<i>Pennisetum macrourum</i>
alectra	<i>Alectra</i> spp.
alfombrilla	<i>Drymaria arenarioides</i>
ambulia	<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>
Amur cork-tree	<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>
Amur honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera maackii</i>
anchored water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia azurea</i>
animated oat	<i>Avena sterilis</i>
Argentine screwbean	<i>Prosopis strombulifera</i>
arrowhead	<i>Sagittaria sagittifolia</i>
Asian sprangletop	<i>Leptochloa chinensis</i>
autumn olive	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>
Bell's honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera x bella</i> [<i>L. morrowii</i> x <i>L. tatarica</i>]
Benghal dayflower	<i>Commelina benghalensis</i>
Bishop's weed; goutweed	<i>Aegopodium podagraria</i>
black locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
black swallow-wort; Louise's swallow-wort	<i>Cynanchum louiseae</i>
Border privet	<i>Ligustrum obtusifolium</i>
borreria	<i>Spermacoce alata</i>
Brazilian satintail	<i>Imperata brasiliensis</i>
anacharis, Brazilian waterweed; Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i> ; <i>Elodea densa</i> ; <i>Anacharis densa</i>
brittle water-nymph; lesser naiad	<i>Najas minor</i>
broad-leafed pepperweed; tall pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
broomrape	Non-native <i>Orobanche</i> spp.
brownbeard rice; red rice	<i>Oryza rufipogon</i>
burning bush; winged euonymus	<i>Euonymus alatus</i>
bushy rock-cress; narrowleaf bittercress	<i>Cardamine impatiens</i>
Cape tulip	<i>Homeria</i> spp.; <i>Moraea</i> spp.
Carolina Fanwort; fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>
catclaw mimosa	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>
cattail grass; yellow foxtail	<i>Setaria pallidifusca</i> <i>S. pallidefusca</i> ; <i>S. pumila</i>
caulerpa	<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Chinese waterspinach [PERMIT REQUIRED – contact MDAR]	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i> [PERMIT REQUIRED – contact MDAR]
coat buttons	<i>Tridax procumbens</i>
coltsfoot	<i>Tussilago farfara</i>
common barberry; European barberry	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>
common buckthorn	<i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>
common crupina	<i>Crupina vulgaris</i>
common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>
creeping buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
creeping Jenny; moneywort	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>
crisped pondweed; curly pondweed	<i>Potamogeton crispus</i>
crofton weed	<i>Ageratina adenophora</i>
Cypress spurge	<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>
Dames Rocket	<i>Hesperis matronalis</i>
devil's thorn	<i>Emex spinosa</i>
dodder	Non-native <i>Cuscuta</i> spp.
duck-lettuce	<i>Ottelia alismoides</i>
Eurasian or European water-milfoil; Spike water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>
European buckthorn; glossy buckthorn	<i>Frangula alnus; Rhamnus frangula</i>
exotic bur-reed	<i>Sparganium erectum</i>
flowering rush	<i>Butomus umbellatus</i>
forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>
garlic mustard	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>
giant false sensitive plant; false sensitive plant	<i>Mimosa diplotricha; M. invisa</i>
giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
giant salvinia; eared watermoss	<i>Salvinia auriculata</i>
giant salvinia; kariba-weed	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia biloba</i>
giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia herzogii</i>
goatsrue	<i>Galega officinalis</i>
gray willow; rusty willow	<i>Salix cinerea</i>
hair fescue; fineleaf sheep fescue	<i>Festuca filiformis</i>
hairy joint grass; jointhead; small carpetgrass	<i>Arthraxon hispidus</i>
hairy willow-herb; Codlins and Cream	<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>
horned poppy; sea poppy; yellow hornpoppy	<i>Glaucium flavum</i>
hydrilla; water-thyme; Florida elodea	<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>
itchgrass	<i>Rottboellia cochinchinensis</i>
Japanese Barberry	<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
Japanese hops	<i>Humulus japonicus</i>
Japanese knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica; Polygonum cuspidatum; Reynoutria japonica</i>
Japanese sedge; Asiatic sand sedge	<i>Carex kobomugi</i>
Japanese stiltgrass; Nepalese browntop	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>
jointed prickly pear	<i>Opuntia aurantiaca</i>
kiawe	<i>Prosopis pallida</i>
kikuyugrass	<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>
Kodo-millet	<i>Paspalum scrobiculatum</i>
kudzu; Japanese arrowroot	<i>Pueraria montana</i>
Kyasuma grass	<i>Pennisetum pedicellatum</i>
large gray willow	<i>Salix atrocineria; Salix cinerea ssp. oleifolia</i>
leafy Spurge; Wolf's Milk	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>
lesser celandine; fig buttercup	<i>Ficaria verna; Ranunculus ficaria</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
liverseed grass	<i>Urochloa panicoides</i>
longstamen rice; red rice	<i>Oryza longistaminata</i>
Malabar melastome	<i>Melastoma malabathricum</i>
melaleuca	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>
mile-a-minute vine or weed; Asiatic Tearthumb	<i>Polygonum perfoliatum</i>
mile-a-minute; bittervine	<i>Mikania micrantha</i>
mile-a-minute; heartleaf hempvine	<i>Mikania cordata</i>
Miramar weed	<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>
missiongrass	<i>Pennisetum polystachyon</i> ; <i>P. polystachion</i>
monochoria	<i>Monochoria hastata</i>
Morrow's honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>
mosquito fern	<i>Azolla pinnata</i>
multiflora rose	<i>Rosa multiflora</i>
murain-grass	<i>Ischaemum rugosum</i>
Norway maple	<i>Acer platanoides</i>
onion weed	<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>
Oriental or Asiatic bittersweet	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>
oxygen weed	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
pale swallow-wort	<i>Cynanchum rossicum</i>
parrot-feather; water-feather; Brazilian water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
pickerel weed	<i>Monochoria vaginalis</i>
pilipiliula	<i>Chrysopogon aciculatus</i>
plume grass; Amur silvergrass	<i>Miscanthus sacchariflorus</i> (also covers <i>Miscanthus x giganteus</i> , a hybrid of <i>M. sacchariflorus</i> and <i>M. sinensis</i>)
porcelain-berry; Amur peppervine	<i>Ampelopsis brevipedunculata</i>
purple loosestrife	<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
red rice	<i>Oryza punctata</i>
reed canary-grass; ribbon grass	<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>
serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>
sessile joyweed	<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>
spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea biebersteinii</i> ; <i>C. stoebe ssp. micranthos</i>
sycamore maple	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
tall mannagrass; reed mannagrass	<i>Glyceria maxima</i>
tansy ragwort; stinking Willie	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Tatarian honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>
three-cornered jack	<i>Emex australis</i>
tornillo	<i>Prosopis reptans</i>
tree of heaven	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
tropical soda apple	<i>Solanum viarum</i>
turkeyberry	<i>Solanum torvum</i>
variable water-milfoil; two-leaved water-milfoil	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>
velvet fingergrass	<i>Digitaria velutina</i>
velvet mesquite	<i>Prosopis velutina</i>
water yellowcress; great yellowcress	<i>Rorippa amphibia</i>
water-chestnut	<i>Trapa natans</i>
wetland nightshade	<i>Solanum tampicense</i>
wild blackberry complex	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>
wild blackberry	<i>Rubus moluccanus</i>
wild chervil	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
wild safflower; jeweled distaff thistle	<i>Carthamus oxyacanthus</i> ; <i>C. oxyantha</i>
wild sugarcane	<i>Saccharum spontaneum</i>
wineberry; Japanese wineberry; wine raspberry	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
witchweed	<i>Striga</i> spp.
wormleaf salsola	<i>Salsola vermiculata</i>
yellow floating heart	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>

On the web: <https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-prohibited-plant-list> Updated 3/2021

Contact: Jennifer Forman Orth, Environmental Biologist, Jennifer.Forman-Orth@mass.gov – 617-626-1735