

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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The Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List

Following is a list of plants, including all cultivars, varieties and hybrids, for which the sale, import, trade, purchase, distribution, propagation, and related activities are currently prohibited within the state of Massachusetts:

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>
anacharis; Brazilian waterweed; Brazilian elodea	<i>Egeria densa</i> ; <i>Elodea densa</i> ; <i>Anacharis densa</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>
Asiatic bittersweet	<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>
autumn olive	<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</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>
brittle water-nymph; lesser naiad	<i>Najas minor</i>
broad-leafed pepperweed; tall pepperweed	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>
broomrape	Non-native <i>Orobancha</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>

Common Name	Scientific Name
cattail grass; yellow foxtail	<i>Setaria pallidifusca</i> ; <i>S. pallidefusca</i> ; <i>S. pumila</i>
caulerpa	<i>Caulerpa taxifolia</i>
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>
dame's 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</i> ; <i>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</i> ; <i>M. invisa</i>
giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia auriculata</i>
giant salvinia	<i>Salvinia molesta</i>
giant salvinia; eared watermoss	<i>Salvinia biloba</i>
giant salvinia; kariba-weed	<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 black pine*	<i>Pinus thunbergii</i> *
Japanese honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera japonica</i>
Japanese hops	<i>Humulus japonicus</i>
Japanese knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica</i> ; <i>Polygonum cuspidatum</i> ; <i>Reynoutria japonica</i>
Japanese sedge; Asiatic sand sedge	<i>Carex kobomugi</i>

*See phase-out information at the end of this document

Common Name	Scientific Name
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 atrocinerea; Salix cinerea ssp. oleifolia</i>
leafy spurge; wolf's milk	<i>Euphorbia esula</i>
lesser celandine; fig buttercup	<i>Ficaria verna; Ranunculus ficaria</i>
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; 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>
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; Pontederia 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>
Scotch broom*	<i>Cytisus scoparius*</i>
serrated tussock	<i>Nassella trichotoma</i>
sessile joyweed	<i>Alternanthera sessilis</i>
spotted knapweed	<i>Centaurea biebersteinii; 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>

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Common Name	Scientific Name
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>
water spinach [PERMIT REQUIRED – contact MDAR]	<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i> [PERMIT REQUIRED – contact MDAR]
weeping lovegrass*	<i>Eragrostis curvula</i> *
wetland nightshade	<i>Solanum tampicense</i>
wild blackberry	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>
wild blackberry complex	<i>Rubus moluccanus</i>
wild chervil	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>
wild safflower; jeweled distaff thistle	<i>Carthamus oxyacanthus</i> ; <i>C. oxycantha</i>
wild sugarcane	<i>Saccharum spontaneum</i>
wineberry; Japanese wineberry; wine raspberry	<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>
witchweed	<i>Striga</i> spp.
wormleaf salsola	<i>Salsola vermiculata</i>
yellow floating heart	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>
yellow Iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>

Phase-out period for newly listed prohibited species:

As of 12/31/2022, nursery agents/growers may no longer receive or begin propagation of the following species: *Cytisus scoparius* (Scotch broom), *Eragrostis curvula* (Weeping Lovegrass), and *Pinus thunbergii* (Japanese Black Pine). **Existing stock** received or propagated before this date may be sold according to the following schedule:

- *Cytisus scoparius* (Scotch broom): No sales permitted after **12/31/2024**
- *Eragrostis curvula* (Weeping Lovegrass): No sales permitted after **12/31/2023**
- *Pinus thunbergii* (Japanese Black Pine): No sales permitted after **12/31/2025**

Online: <https://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-prohibited-plant-list>

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