



California Invasive Plant Council



Protecting California's wildlands through research, restoration, and education

Cal-IPC > Invasive Plants > California Invasive Plant Inventory > **The Inventory Database**

California Invasive Plant Inventory Database

Before looking at this database, please read the information on the [Invasive Plant Inventory](#), including how plants were listed and what the ratings mean.


[Show all plants](#)




Filter plants by region:

Selecting a floristic province will show only plants found in all regions of that province, not those found in only one or a few regions. Select an individual region to see all plants found there.

- **CA Floristic Province (CA-FP)**
 - Cascade Range (CaR)
 - Central West (CW)
 - Great Valley (GV)
 - Northwest (NW)
 - Sierra Nevada (SN)
 - Southwest (SW)
- **Great Basin Province (GB)**
 - Modoc Plateau (MP)
 - Sierra Nevada East (SNE)
- **Plants invasive in all provinces (All CA)**
 - > [See map of regions](#)
- **Desert Province (D)**
 - Mojave Desert (DMoj)
 - Sonoran Desert (DSon)
- > [See abbreviation and scores key](#)

> [Read how the Inventory was compiled.](#)

Click on column heading to sort the table. Click on the scientific name for the **Plant Assessment Form**, or the  icon for the **Plant Profile**. You can also [download a tab-delimited file](#) of this data which can be imported into Microsoft Excel or other programs.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Rating	Alert	Imp.	Inv.	Dis.	Doc.	Regions	Habitats of Concern and Comments
Acroptilon repens 	Russian knapweed	Moderate		B	B	B	3.2	• CA-FP • GB	Scrub, grasslands, riparian, pinyon-juniper woodland, forest. Severe impacts in other western states. Spreading in many areas of CA.
Ailanthus altissima 	tree-of-heaven	Moderate		B	B	B	3.0	• CA-FP • GB	Riparian areas, grasslands, oak woodland. Impacts highest in riparian areas.
Aira caryophylla	silver hairgrass	Eval No List		D	C	A	2.6	• CA-FP	Widespread in grasslands, but impacts appear negligible.
Atriplex semibaccata 	Australian saltbush	Moderate		B	B	B	2.9	• All CA	Coastal grasslands, scrub, upper salt marsh. Limited distribution, but can be very

- About Us
- Invasive Plants**
 - Definitions & Impacts
 - California Inventory**
 - Management
 - Research
 - Mapping & Early Detection
- Symposium
- Field Courses
- Policy & Advocacy
- Responsible Landscaping
- Weed Management Areas
- Outreach & Education
- Publications & Resources
- Related Sites
- Contact Us



Scientific Name	Common Name	Rating	Alert	Imp.	Inv.	Dis.	Doc.	Regions	Habitats of Concern and Comments
Bassia hyssopifolia	fivehook bassia	Limited		C	C	B	2.7	• All CA	invasive regionally. Alkaline habitats. Weed of agriculture or disturbed sites. Impacts minor in wildlands.
Brassica nigra	black mustard	Moderate		B	B	A	2.0	• CA-FP	Widespread. Primarily a weed of disturbed sites, but can be locally a more significant problem in wildlands.
Brassica rapa	birdsrape mustard, field mustard	Limited		C	B	B	1.8	• CA-FP • SNE	Coastal scrub, grasslands meadows, riparian. Primarily in disturbed areas, Impacts appear to be minor or unknown in wildlands.
Bromus diandrus	ripgut brome	Moderate		B	B	A	3.3	• All CA	Dunes, scrub, grassland, woodland, forest. Very widespread, but monotypic stands uncommon.
Bromus hordeaceus	soft brome	Limited		B	C	A	2.8	• All CA	Grasslands, sagebrush, serpentine soils, many other habitats. Very widespread, but primarily in converted annual grasslands.
Bromus japonicus	Japanese brome, Japanese chess	Limited		B	C	B	2.6	• CA-FP • GB • D	Great Basin grassland, valley and foothill grassland, pinon and juniper woodland, lower montane coniferous forest
Bromus madritensis ssp. rubens	red brome	High		A	B	A	3.0	• All CA	Scrub, grassland, desert washes, woodlands
Cardaria chalepensis	lens-podded white-top	Moderate	🔴	B	B	C	3.2	• CA-FP • GB	Central Valley wetlands. Limited



Scientific Name	Common Name	Rating	Alert	Imp.	Inv.	Dis.	Doc.	Regions	Habitats of Concern and Comments
									distribution in CA. May not be as invasive as <i>C. draba</i> .
Centaurea maculosa	spotted knapweed	High		A	B	B	3.4	• CA-FP • GB	Riparian, grasslands, wet meadows, forests. More widely distributed in other western states.
Centaurea solstitialis	yellow starthistle	High		A	B	A	3.0	• CA-FP	Grasslands, woodlands, occasionally riparian
Cirsium arvense	Canada thistle	Moderate		B	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP • DMoj	Grasslands, riparian areas, forests. Severe impacts in other western states. Limited distribution in CA.
Cirsium vulgare	bull thistle	Moderate		B	B	B	3.3	• CA-FP • GB	Riparian areas, marshes, meadows. Widespread, can be very problematic regionally.
Conium maculatum	poison-hemlock	Moderate		B	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP	Riparian woodland, grassland. Widespread in disturbed areas. Abiotic impacts unknown. Impacts can vary locally.
Convolvulus arvensis	field bindweed	Eval No List		C	B	B	3.5	• All CA	Only known as agricultural weed
Cynodon dactylon	bermudagrass	Moderate		B	B	B	3.3	• CA-FP • D	Riparian scrub in southern CA. Common landscape weed, but can be very invasive in desert washes.
Cytisus scoparius	Scotch broom	High		A	B	A	3.2	• CA-FP	Coastal scrub, oak woodland, horticultural varieties may also be invasive.
Dactylis glomerata	orchardgrass	Limited		C	B	B	2.9	• CA-FP • GB	Grasslands, broadleaved forest, woodlands; common forage species.



Scientific Name	Common Name	Rating	Alert	Imp.	Inv.	Dis.	Doc.	Regions	Habitats of Concern and Comments
									Impacts appear to be minor.
Daucus carota	wild carrot, Queen Anne's lace	Eval No List		D	C	B	2.7	• All CA	Very widespread, but primarily in disturbed sites, particularly roadsides
Descurainia sophia	flixweed, tansy mustard	Limited		C	B	B	1.9	• All CA	Scrub, grassland, woodland. Impacts appear to be minor, but locally more invasive in NE CA.
Erodium botrys	broadleaf filaree	Eval No List		D	C	A	2.8	• CA-FP	Present in wildlands but known impacts are negligible. Often transient.
Erodium brachycarpum	short-fruited filaree	Eval No List		C	C	A	2.6	• CA-FP	Present in wildlands but known impacts are negligible. Often transient.
Erodium cicutarium	redstem filaree	Limited		C	C	A	3.1	• All CA	Many habitats. Widespread. Impacts minor in wildlands. High-density populations transient.
Erodium moschatum	whitestem filaree	Eval No List		D	C	A	2.7	• CA-FP	Primarily an agricultural weed, little impact in wildlands.
Festuca arundinacea	tall fescue	Moderate		B	B	A	2.9	• CA-FP	Coastal scrub, grasslands; common forage grass. Widespread, abiotic impacts unknown.
Foeniculum vulgare	fennel	High		A	B	A	3.0	• CA-FP	Grasslands, scrub.
Geranium dissectum	cutleaf geranium	Moderate		C	B	A	1.7	• CA-FP	Numerous habitats but impacts appear minor.
Geranium molle	dovefoot geranium	Eval No List		D	B	A	1.7	• CA-FP	Present in wildlands, but known impacts are negligible
Hedera helix, H. canariensis	English ivy, Algerian ivy	High		A	A	A	2.7	• CA-FP	Coastal forests, riparian areas. Species combined due to genetics questions.



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Holcus lanatus	common velvet grass	Moderate		B	B	A	2.9	• CA-FP • GB • DMoj	Coastal grasslands, wetlands. Impacts can be more severe locally, especially in wetland areas.
Hordeum marinum, H. murinum	Mediterranean barley, hare barley, wall barley	Moderate		B	B	A	2.8	• All CA	Grasslands; H. marinum invades drier habitats, while H. murinum invades wetlands. Widespread, but generally do not form dominant stands.
Hypochaeris glabra	smooth catsear	Limited		C	B	B	3.1	• CA-FP	Scrub and woodlands. Widespread. Impacts appear to be minor. Some local variability.
Hypochaeris radicata	rough catsear, hairy dandelion	Moderate		C	B	A	2.2	• CA-FP	Coastal dunes, scrub, and prairie; woodland, forest. Widespread. Impacts unknown or appear to be minor.
Lactuca serriola	prickly lettuce	Eval No List		D	B	B	3.1	• All CA	Primarily an agricultural and roadside weed
Lepidium latifolium	perennial pepperweed, tall whitetop	High		A	A	A	3.1	• CA-FP • GB • DMoj	Coastal and inland marshes, riparian areas, grasslands; potential to invade montane wetlands.
Linaria genistifolia ssp. dalmatica	Dalmation toadflax	Moderate		B	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP	Grasslands, forest clearings. Limited distribution. More severe impacts in other western states.
Linaria vulgaris	yellow toadflax, butter and eggs	Moderate		B	B	B	2.3	• CA-FP	valley and foothill grassland, Great Basin grassland, riparian woodland, lower montane



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									coniferous forest, upper montane coniferous forest
Lolium multiflorum	Italian ryegrass	Moderate		A	B	A	2.6	• CA-FP	Grasslands, oak woodland, pinyon-juniper woodland; widely used for post-fire erosion control. Widespread. Impacts can vary with region.
Lotus corniculatus	birdsfoot trefoil	Eval No List		D	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP • GB	Primarily a turf or agricultural weed in CA
Lythrum hyssopifolium	hyssop loosestrife	Limited		C	B	B	3.0	• CA-FP	Grasslands, wetlands, vernal pools. Widespread. Impacts unknown, but appear to be minor.
Marrubium vulgare	white horehound	Limited		C	C	B	2.8	• CA-FP • DMoj	Grasslands scrub, riparian areas. Widespread. Rarely in dense stands. Impacts relatively minor.
Medicago polymorpha	California burclover	Limited		C	C	A	2.8	• CA-FP	Grasslands. Widespread weed of agriculture and disturbed areas. Impacts in wildlands minor.
Melilotus officinalis	yellow sweetclover	Eval No List		D	C	C	3.3	• CA-FP • GB	Present in human-disturbed habitats only
Myosotis latifolia	common forget-me-not	Limited		C	B	B	2.2	• CA-FP • DMoj	Coniferous forest, riparian. Little information on impacts.
Onopordum acanthium	Scotch thistle	High		B	B	B	2.9	• CA-FP • MP	Wet meadows, sage brush, riparian areas
Oxalis corniculata	creeping woodsorrel	Eval No List		D	C	C	2.2	• All CA	Primarily a turf weed in CA
Phragmites australis	common reed	Native		B	B	B	2.5	• All CA	Genetic issues make it unclear which strains are native to CA.





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Phytolacca americana	common pokeweed	Limited		C	B	C	2.8	• CA-FP	riparian forest, riparian woodland
Picris echioides	bristly oxtongue	Limited		C	B	B	2.4	• CA-FP	Coastal prairie, scrub, riparian woodland. Widespread locally. Abiotic impacts unknown.
Plantago lanceolata	buckhorn plantain, English plantain	Limited		C	C	B	2.1	• CA-FP	Many habitats. Turf weed primarily. Low density and impact in wildlands.
Poa pratensis	Kentucky bluegrass	Limited		C	B	B	2.7	• All CA	Grasslands scrub, riparian areas. Widespread turf plant. Abiotic impacts unknown.
Polypogon monspeliensis and subsp.	rabbitfoot polypogon, annual beardgrass	Limited		C	C	B	2.3	• All CA	Margins of ponds and streams, seasonally wet places, edge of coastal dunes. Widespread. Impacts appear to be minor.
Raphanus sativus	radish	Limited		C	C	B	2.5	• CA-FP	Present at low levels in numerous habitats. Widespread in disturbed sites.
Robinia pseudoacacia	black locust	Limited		C	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP • GB	Riparian areas, canyons. Severe impacts in southern states. Impacts minor in CA.
Rubus armeniacus	Himalaya blackberry	High		A	A	A	3.0	• CA-FP	Riparian areas, marshes, oak woodlands
Rumex acetosella	red sorrel, sheep sorrel	Moderate		B	B	A	2.3	• CA-FP	Many habitats, riparian areas, forest, wetlands. Widespread. Abiotic impacts unknown. Impacts can vary locally.
Rumex crispus	curly dock	Limited		C	C	A	2.7	• All CA	Grasslands, vernal pool, meadows, riparian. Widespread. Impacts appear to be minor.
Salsola tragus	Russian-thistle	Limited		C	B	B	2.8	• All CA	Desert dunes and scrub,



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									alkali playa. Widespread. Impacts minor in wildlands.
Senecio jacobaea 	tansy ragwort	Limited		C	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP	Grasslands, riparian. Impacts generally minor. Can be locally important in NW CA.
Sesbania punicea 	red sesbania, scarlet wisteria	High		A	B	C	3.2	• CA-FP • DSon	Riparian areas
Silybum marianum 	blessed milkthistle	Limited		C	C	A	3.5	• CA-FP	Grasslands, riparian. Widespread, primarily in disturbed areas. Impacts can be higher locally
Sinapis arvensis 	wild mustard, charlock	Limited		C	C	C	2.9	• CA-FP	Grasslands. Primarily in disturbed sites. Impacts minor or unknown in wildlands.
Solanum elaeagnifolium	silverleaf nightshade	Eval No List		D	B	C	2.8	• CA-FP • D	Primarily agricultural weed, but escaping to wildlands in other countries. May prove to be more important in future.
Sonchus asper	spiny sowthistle	Eval No List		D	B	B	3.1	• All CA	Primarily an agricultural weed
Spartium junceum 	Spanish broom	High		A	B	B	3.2	• CA-FP • DMoj	Coastal scrub, grasslands, wetlands, oak woodland, forests
Taeniatherum caput-medusae 	medusahead	High		A	A	A	3.4	• CA-FP • MP	Grasslands, scrub, woodland
Taraxacum officinale	common dandelion	Eval No List		D	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP • GB	Primarily a turf weed in CA
Torilis arvensis 	hedgепarsley	Moderate		C	B	B	2.3	• CA-FP	Expanding range. Appear to have only moderate ecological impacts.
Trifolium hirtum 	rose clover	Moderate		C	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP	Grasslands, oak woodland. Widely planted in CA. Impacts relatively minor in most areas.



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Vicia villosa	hairy vetch	Eval No List		D	C	B	2.8	• CA-FP	Primarily an agricultural weed, Widespread but impacts minor in wildlands.
Vinca major 	big periwinkle	Moderate		B	B	B	2.8	• CA-FP • DMoj	Riparian, oak woodlands, coastal scrub. Distribution currently limited but spreading in riparian areas. Impacts can be higher locally.
Vulpia bromoides	squirreltail fescue	Eval No List		D	C	B	2.9	• CA-FP	Less common than V. myuros
Vulpia myuros 	rattail fescue	Moderate		B	B	A	3.0	• CA-FP • D	Coastal sage scrub, chaparral. Widespread. Rarely forms monotypic stands, but locally problematic

Column heading abbreviations:

Imp. = Impact
 Inv. = Invasiveness
 Dis. = Distribution
 Doc. = Documentation Level (Documentation level averaged)

Scores:

A = Severe
 B = Moderate
 C = Limited
 D = None
 U = Unknown

Nomenclature:

Scientific names are based on [The Jepson Manual](#).
 For each species, the first common name is based on the [Weed Science Society of America's "Composite List of Weeds"](#) , followed by other names used in California.

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[\[top of page \]](#)

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