

# **Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's 2019 List of Invasive Plant Species**

*The mission of the **Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council** is to reduce the impacts of invasive plants in Florida through the exchange of scientific, educational, and technical information.*

Note: The FLEPPC List of Invasive Plant Species is not a regulatory list. Only those plants listed as Federal Noxious Weeds, Florida Noxious Weeds, Florida Prohibited Aquatic Plants, or in local ordinances are regulated by law.

## **Purpose of the List**

To provide a list of plants determined by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council to be invasive in natural areas of Florida and routinely update the list based upon information of newly identified occurrences and changes in distribution over time. Also, to focus attention on:

- The adverse effects exotic pest plants have on Florida's biodiversity and native plant communities,
- The habitat losses in natural areas from exotic pest plant infestations,
- The impacts on endangered species via habitat loss and alteration,
- The need for pest plant management,
- The socio-economic impacts of these plants (e.g., increased wildfires or flooding in certain areas),
- Changes in the severity of different pest plants infestations over time,
- Providing information to help managers set priorities for research and control programs.

## **FLEPPC List Definitions:**

- **Exotic**—a species introduced to Florida, purpose- fully or accidentally, from a natural range outside of Florida.
- **Native**—a species whose natural range includes Florida.
- **Naturalized exotic**—an exotic that sustains itself outside cultivation (it is still exotic; it has not “become” native).
- **Invasive exotic**— an exotic that has not only naturalized, but is expanding on its own in Florida native plant communities.

**Zone: N** = north, **C** = central, **S** = south, Referring to each species' general distribution in regions of Florida (not its potential range in the state). Please refer to the map below.



**Citation example:**

FLEPPC. 2019 List of Invasive Plant Species.

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council. Internet: [www.fleppc.org](http://www.fleppc.org)

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For more information on invasive exotic plants including links to related web pages, visit  
[www.fleppc.org](http://www.fleppc.org)

## CATEGORY I

Invasive exotics that are altering native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, or hybridizing with natives. This definition does not rely on the economic severity or geographic range of the problem, but on the documented ecological damage caused.

Zone Key: N = North, C = Central, S = South

Scientific Name	Common Name	Zone
<i>Abrus precatorius</i>	Rosary pea	C, S
<i>Abrus precatorius</i>	Earleaf, acacia	C, S
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>	Mimosa, silk tree	N, C
<i>Albizia lebbek</i>	Woman's Tongue	C, S
<i>Ardisia crenata</i>	coral ardisia	N, C, S
<i>Ardisia elliptica</i>	shoebutton ardisia	C, S
<i>Asparagus aethiopicus</i>	asparagus fern	N, C, S
<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	orchid tree	C, S
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	Bishopwood	C, S
<i>Calophyllum antillanum</i>	Santa Maria	S
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	Australian-pine	N, C, S
<i>Casuarina glauca</i>	suckering Australian-pine	C, S
<i>Cenchrus purpureus</i> ( <i>Pennisetum purpureum</i> )	elephantgrass, Napier grass	N, C, S
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	camphor-tree	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Colocasia esculenta</i>	wild taro	N, C, S
<i>Clumbrina asiatica</i>	Leatherleaf	S
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Carrotwood	C, S
<i>Deparia petersenii</i>	Japanese false spleenwort	<b>N, C</b>
<i>Dioscorea alata</i>	winged yam	N, C, S
<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>	air potato	N, C, S
<i>Dolichandra unguis-cati</i> ( <i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i> )	cat's-claw vine	N, C, S
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	water-hyacinth	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Eugenia uniflora</i>	Surinam cherry	C, S
<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> <sup>1</sup>	laurel fig	C, S
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Hydrilla	N, C, S
<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>	green hygro	N, C, S
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	West Indian marsh grass	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Cogongrass	N, C, S
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	water-spinach	C
<i>Jasminum dichotomum</i>	Gold Coast jasmine	C, S
<i>Jasminum fluminens</i>	Brazilian Jasmine	C, S
<i>Lantana strigocamara</i> <sup>2</sup>	lantana, shrub verbena	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>	glossy privet	N, C
<i>Ligustrum sinense</i>	Chinese privet	N, C, S
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle	N, C, S
<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>	Peruvian primrosewillow	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Lumnitzera racemosa</i>	black mangrove	S
<i>Luziola subintegra</i>	Tropical American watergrass	<b>S</b>

<i>Lygodium japonicum</i>	Japanese climbing fern	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Lygodium microphyllum</i>	Old World climbing fern	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Manilkara zapota</i>	Sapodilla	<b>S</b>
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	melaleuca, paper bark	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Melinis repens</i>	Natalgrass	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Microsorium grossum</i> <sup>4</sup>	serpent fern, wart fern	<b>S</b>
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	Japanese stiltgrass	<b>N</b>
<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	catclaw mimosa	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Nandina domestica</i>	Heavenly bamboo, nandina	<b>N, C</b>
<i>Nephrolepis brownii</i>	Asian sword fern	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Nephrolepis cordifolia</i>	sword fern	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Neyraudia reynaudiana</i>	Burma reed	<b>S</b>
<i>Nymphoides cristata</i>	crested floatingheart	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Paederia cruddasiana</i>	sewer vine	<b>S</b>
<i>Paederia foetida</i>	skunk vine	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Panicum repens</i>	Torpedograss	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	water-lettuce	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Psidium cattleianum</i>	stawberry guava	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Psidium guajava</i>	Guava	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i>	Kudzu	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	downy rose-myrtle	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Ruellia simplex</i>	Mexican petunia	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Salvinia minima</i>	water spangles	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Scaevola taccada</i>	beach naupaka, half-flower	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>	schefflera, umbrella tree	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i>	Brazilian pepper	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Scleria lacustris</i>	Wright's nutrush	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Scleria microcarpa</i> <sup>*</sup>	tropical nutrush	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Senna pendula</i> var. <i>glabrata</i>	Christmas senna, climbing cassia	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Solanum tampicense</i>	wetland night shade	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Solanum viarum</i>	tropical soda apple	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Sporobolus jacquemontii</i>	West Indian dropseed	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>	arrowhead vine	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	Java plum	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Tectaria incisa</i>	incised halberd fern	<b>S</b>
<i>Thelypteris opulenta</i>	jeweled maidenhair fern	<b>S</b>
<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	seaside mahoe	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Tradescantia fluminensis</i>	small-leaf spiderwort	<b>N, C</b>
<i>Tradescantia spathacea</i>	oyster plant	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Urena lobata</i>	Caesar's weed	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Urochloa mutica</i>	paragrass	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Vitex rotundifolia</i>	Beach vitex	<b>N</b>

<sup>1</sup> Does not include *Ficus microcarpa* var. *fuyuensis*, which is sold as "green island ficus".

<sup>2</sup> Historically this non-native has been referred to as *Lantana camara*, a species not known to occur in Florida.

<sup>3</sup> Does not include the native endemic *Spermacoce neoterminalis*.

<sup>4</sup> *Microsorium grossum* has been previously misidentified as *Microsorium scolopendria*.

<sup>\*</sup> Added to the FLEPPC List of Invasive Species in 2019.

Plant names are those published in the Atlas of Florida Plants (<http://www.florida.plantatlas.usf.edu>). For historical species nomenclature see "Guide to Vascular Plants of Florida Third Edition." Wunderlin and Hansen, University of Florida Press. 2011

## CATEGORY II

Invasive exotics that have increased in abundance or frequency but have not yet altered Florida plant communities to the extent shown by Category 1 species. These species may become Category 1 if ecological damage is demonstrated.

Scientific Name	Common Name	Zone
<i>Adenantha pavonina</i>	red sandalwood	S
<i>Agave sisalana</i>	sisal hemp	C, S
<i>Alstonia macrophylla</i>	devil tree	S
<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>	alligatorweed	N, C, S
<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>	coral vine	N, C, S
<i>Ardisia japonica</i>	Japanese ardisia	N
<i>Aristolochia elegans</i> ( <i>Aristolochia littoralis</i> )	calico flower	N, C, S
<i>Asystasia gangetica</i>	Ganges primrose	C, S
<i>Begonia cucullata</i>	wax begonia	N, C, S
<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>	paper mulberry	N, C, S
<i>Bruguiera gymnorrhiza</i>	large-leafed mangrove	S
<i>Callisia fragrans</i>	Inch plant	C, S
<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	river sheoak	C, S
<i>Cecropia palmata</i>	trumpet tree	S
<i>Cenchrus polystachios</i> ( <i>Pennisetum polystachios</i> )	mission grass	S
<i>Cenchrus setaceus</i> ( <i>Pennisetum setaceum</i> )	fountain grass	S
<i>Cestrum diurnum</i>	day jessamine	C, S
<i>Chamaedorea seifrizii</i>	bamboo palm	S
<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	Japanese clematis	N, C
<i>Cocos nucifera</i>	coconut palm	S
<i>Crassocephalum crepidioides</i>	redflower ragleaf	C, S
<i>Cryptostegia madagascariensis</i>	Madagascar rubbervine	C, S
<i>Cyperus involucratus</i>	umbrella plant	C, S
<i>Cyperus prolifer</i>	dwarf papyrus	C, S
<i>Dactyloctenium aegyptium</i>	Durban crow's-foot grass	C, S
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	Indian rosewood, sissoo	C, S
<i>Dalechampia scandens</i> *	spurge-creeper	S
<i>Distimake tuberosus</i> ( <i>Merremia tuberosa</i> )	Spanish arbor vine, wood-rose	C, S
<i>Dracaena hyacinthoides</i> ( <i>Sansevieria hyacinthoides</i> )	bowstring hemp	C, S
<i>Elaeagnus pungens</i>	silverthorn, thorny olive	N, C
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	autumn olive, silverberry	N
<i>Epipremnum pinnatum</i> cv. 'Aureum'	pothos	C, S
<i>Eulophia graminea</i>	Chinese crown orchid	C, S
<i>Ficus altissima</i>	council tree, false banyan	S
<i>Flacourtia indica</i>	governor's plum	S
<i>Hemarthria altissima</i>	limpoglass	C, S
<i>Heteropterys brachiata</i>	redwing	S
<i>Hyparrhenia rufa</i>	jaragua	N, C, S
<i>Ipomoea carnea</i> subsp. <i>fistulosa</i>	shrub morning-glory	C, S
<i>Kalanchoe x houghtonii</i>	mother of millions	N, C, S
<i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i>	life plant	C, S
<i>Koelreuteria elegans</i> subsp. <i>formosana</i>	flamegold tree	C, S

<i>Landoltia punctata</i>	spotted duckweed	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	leadtree	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Limnophila sessiliflora</i>	Asian marshweed	<b>N,C, S</b>
<i>Livistona chinensis</i>	Chinese fan palm	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Macroptilium lathyroides</i>	wild bushbean	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Melaleuca viminalis</i> ( <i>Callistemon viminalis</i> )	bottlebrush	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Chinaberry	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Melinis minutiflora</i>	molasses grass	<b>C S</b>
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	mile-a-minute vine	<b>S</b>
<i>Momordica charantia</i>	balsam-apple	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Murraya paniculata</i>	orange-jessamine	<b>S</b>
<i>Myriophyllum spicatum</i>	Eurasian water-milfoil	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Passiflora biflora</i>	twin-flowered passion vine	<b>S</b>
<i>Phoenix reclinata</i>	Senegal date palm	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Phyllostachys aurea</i>	golden bamboo	<b>N, C</b>
<i>Pittosporum pentandrum</i>	Taiwanese cheesewood	<b>S</b>
<i>Platyterium bifurcatum</i>	staghorn fern	<b>S</b>
<i>Praxelis clematidea</i>	praxelis	<b>C</b>
<i>Pteris vittata</i>	Chinese brake, ladder brake	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Ptychosperma elegans</i>	solitary palm	<b>S</b>
<i>Richardia grandiflora</i>	largeflower Mexican clover	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	castorbean	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Rotala rotundifolia</i>	dwarf rotala, roundleaf toothcup	<b>S</b>
<i>Ruellia blechum</i>	green shrimp plant	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Sesbania punicea</i>	rattlebox	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Sida planicaulis</i>	mata-pasto	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Solanum diphyllum</i>	twinleaf nightshade	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Solanum torvum</i>	turkey berry	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Spermacoce verticillata</i> <sup>3</sup>	shrubby false buttonweed	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Sphagneticola trilobata</i>	wedelia	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>	nettle-leaf porterweed	<b>S</b>
<i>Syagrus romanzoffiana</i>	queen palm	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Syzygium jambos</i>	Malabar plum, rose-apple	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Talipariti tiliaceum</i>	mahoe, sea hibiscus	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	tropical-almond	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Terminalia muelleri</i>	Australian-almond	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>	puncture vine, burr-nut	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Urochloa maxima</i> ( <i>Panicum maximum</i> )	Guineagrass	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Vernicia fordii</i>	tung-oil tree	<b>N, C, S</b>
<i>Vitex trifolia</i>	simple-leaf chastetree	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Washington fan palm	<b>C, S</b>
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Chinese wisteria	<b>N, C</b>
<i>Xanthosoma sagittifolium</i>	malanga, elephant ear	<b>N, C, S</b>