

What are Invasive Plants?

Most of the plants used in gardens and landscaping do not invade or harm wildland areas. But a few vigorous species can – and do – escape from cultivation into open landscapes causing a variety of ecological problems. They crowd out native plants, insects and animals, and can lead to flooding, fire and crop losses. Invasive species are a leading threat to biodiversity, second only to habitat destruction. The economic cost is as significant as the ecological cost: in California, more than \$85 million goes to fighting invasive plant and animals every year.

Benefits of Planting Right

How can horticulture businesses simultaneously serve their customers, protect the environment, and save Californians millions of dollars? *By stopping the spread of invasive plants.*

The garden and landscape industry can address the serious and expensive problem of invasive plants, since more than half of invasive plants started in gardens and landscaping. We have a powerful opportunity to protect California's natural resources. We can be proactive and implement practical solutions, rather than waiting for regulations.

PlantRight makes it easy to find out which plants are invasive in each part of the state and which plants are better choices – and how to take advantage of increasing customer demand for environmentally-friendly plants. We make it easy to be a good neighbor. Visit www.PlantRight.org to learn how!

What you can do

A few simple steps can prevent invasions before they start. We can be an environmentally responsible “green” industry while fully serving our customers, remaining financially strong and continuing as a vital part of the state's economy.

You can join the PlantRight effort! Here's how:

- Phase out invasive plant species in your business
- Promote beautiful non-invasive alternatives
- Use free educational materials available from www.PlantRight.org and sign up on our “PlantRight Recommended Business” list
- Read and follow the national voluntary codes of conduct to prevent horticultural invasions at www.PlantRight.org

The People Behind PlantRight

Horticultural Industry leaders are participating in an initiative called California Horticultural Invasives Prevention (Cal-HIP) to halt new introductions of invasive plants. Since 2004, Cal-HIP has brought together leaders from all sectors of the horticulture industry with environmental groups, public gardens and arboreta, scientists, and government agencies to collaborate and find practical, lasting solutions. Cal-HIP is working hard to bring you the best information based on credible scientific research, and they invite the entire California horticulture industry to join them in the new PlantRight program.

The Cal-HIP Steering Committee:

Carl Bell
Bethallyn Black
Holly Crosson
Jennifer Chandler

UC Cooperative Extension, San Diego
UC Cooperative Extension, Master Gardeners Program
University of California at Davis Arboretum
Landscape Architect, American Society of Landscape Architects

Bob Falconer	California Association of Nurseries and Garden Centers
Jim Folsom	Huntington Botanical Gardens
Andrea Fox	California Farm Bureau Federation
Kent Gordon England	California Landscape Contractors Association
Angel Guerzon	Landscape Designer; California Native Plant Society
Doug Johnson	California Invasive Plant Council
Terri Kempton	Sustainable Conservation
Betsy Peterson	California State Floral Association
Mary Pfeiffer	California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association
John Randall	The Nature Conservancy
Craig Reggelbrugge	American Nursery and Landscape Association
Sarah Reichard	University of Washington
Nicholas Staddon	Monrovia
Pat Thalken	California Department of Food and Agriculture
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