



PUBLIC GARDENS AS SENTINELS AGAINST INVASIVE PLANTS

**Using botanic garden and arboreta expertise to help prevent problematic plants from becoming
invasive across North America**

Invasive Category

This category represents taxa that have been observed and thoroughly documented spreading from cultivation both within the garden and outside of the garden's property. Taxa in this category may have been deaccessioned due to invasiveness prior to the public garden developing a formal list or policy regarding plants escaping cultivation. Invasive taxa are likely well documented in the regional flora. Records may show the distribution and population sizes of these taxa expanding over time. Populations of these taxa are generally not highly localized. In some cases, Invasive taxa may be considered widespread on state or provincial scales. Many experts and authorities usually already recognize these taxa as invasive, and a substantial body of literature related to invasive impacts may already exist. They are likely to be either listed or regulated as invasive by invasive plant councils or jurisdictional authorities.