

The first Delaware Invasive Species Council (DISC) assessment of invasive plants was conducted in 2003, and followed protocol developed by NatureServe. A second assessment was done in 2006, following the same protocol. After the 2006 assessment, DISC developed three invasive categories – widespread and invasive, restricted and invasive, and restricted and potentially invasive. In 2019, DISC recognized that a revision of the 2006 list of invasive plants was needed, and that the NatureServe protocol should be modified to make it more relative to the state of Delaware. This current assessment is based on this modified protocol. Experts in the field of botany were contacted in June of 2019 and asked to complete the assessment in an online form. They were provided a list of species to review, and were asked to assess those species they were most familiar with. It should be noted, some individuals appeared on multiple subject matter expert lists (denoted by an asterisk). Experts were given five months to review and complete the assessment. Those who completed assessments for at least one species are indicated in the table below.

Plants List	
Expert Names	
Lori Athey	Ashley Kroon
Susan Barton	Eric Ludwig*
Chris Bennett	Bill McAvoy
Erich Burkentine	Brenna Ness
Darin Callaway	Dave Pro
Bob Collins	Alison Rogerson
Stephen Cottrell	Matt Sarver
Jim Dobson	George Schurter
Jack Ebert	Joe Sebastiani
Rob Gano*	Nate Shampine
Kate Hackett	Elaine Scherling
Jack Holt	Doug Tallamy*
Rick Johnstone	Mark VanGessel
Bill Jones*	Natasha Whetzel
	Jim White

** found on more than one expert list*

Based on the expert assessments, an I-Rank, or invasive rank was determined based on expert responses denoting the level at which a species is invasive in the identified geographic area, in this case, the state of Delaware. These ranks are categorized by high, medium, low, and insignificant. If a species was ranked as high, medium, or low, they are deemed invasive to some degree by the experts and; therefore, are included in the current iteration of the DISC list of Invasive Plant Species. Species ranked as insignificant, were added to the DISC Watch List and will be reevaluated in two years when the list will again be revised. Additionally, for future revisions to the list, selected species thought to be invasive in Delaware will also be evaluated. In contrast to the 2006 DISC list of invasive plants, the new list includes only two categories – invasive and watch list. Below are the results.

Scientific and common names are based on: McAvoy, W.A. 2020. The Flora of Delaware Database. Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, Species Conservation and Research Program, Smyrna, Delaware.

Species	Common Name	Status
<i>Acer palmatum</i>	Japanese maple	Invasive Species
<i>Acer platanoides</i>	Norway maple	
<i>Acorus calamus</i>	European Sweetflag	
<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>	Tree of heaven	
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	Garlic mustard	
<i>Ampelopsis glandulosa</i>	Porcelain berry	
<i>Berberis thunbergii</i>	Japanese barberry	
<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>	Oriental bittersweet	
<i>Centaurea stoebe</i> subsp. <i>micranthos</i>	Spotted knapweed	
<i>Clematis terniflora</i>	Japanese Clematis	
<i>Elaeagnus umbellata</i>	Autumn olive	
<i>Eragrostis curvula</i>	Weeping lovegrass	
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Winged euonymus	
<i>Euonymus fortunei</i>	Wintercreeper	
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese knotweed	
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser celandine	
<i>Hedix helix</i>	English ivy	
<i>Hemerocallis fulva</i>	Orange daylily	
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Hydrilla	
<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Yellow flag iris, Water flag	
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	Golden raintree	
<i>Leucojum aestivum</i>	Summer snowflake	
<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>	European privet	
<i>Lonicera japonica</i>	Japanese honeysuckle	
<i>Lonicera maackii</i>	Amur honeysuckle	
<i>Lonicera morrowii</i>	Morrow's honeysuckle	
<i>Lonicera tatarica</i>	Tartarian honeysuckle	
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping Jenny	
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple loosestrife	
<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>	Japanese stilt grass	
<i>Miscanthus sinensis</i>	Chinese silvergrass	
<i>Murdannia keisak</i>	Marsh Dewflower	
<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	Japanese pachysandra	
<i>Persicaria perfoliata</i>	Mile-a-minute	
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed canarygrass	

Species	Common Name	Status
<i>Phragmites australis</i> subsp. <i>australis</i>	European reed	
<i>Pinus thunbergiana</i>	Japanese black pine	
<i>Pyrus calleryana</i>	Callery pear	
<i>Rosa multiflora</i>	Multiflora rose	
<i>Rubus phoenicolasius</i>	Wineberry	
<i>Viburnum dilatatum</i>	Linden arrowwood	
<i>Viburnum sieboldii</i>	Siebold's viburnum	
<i>Vinca minor</i>	Lesser periwinkle	
<i>Wisteria sinensis</i>	Chinese wisteria	
<i>Buddleja davidii</i>	Butterflybush	Invasive Species Watch List
<i>Ilex crenata</i>	Japanese holly	
<i>Lespedeza thunbergii</i>	Thunberg's bushcover	
<i>Lilium lancifolium</i>	Tiger lily	
<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	Bird's foot trefoil	
<i>Mahonia bealei</i>	Leatherleaf mahonia	
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	Sawtooth oak	
<i>Spirea japonica</i>	Japanese spirea	
<i>Viburnum plicatum</i>	Japanese snowball	
<i>Viburnum setigerum</i>	Tea viburnum	