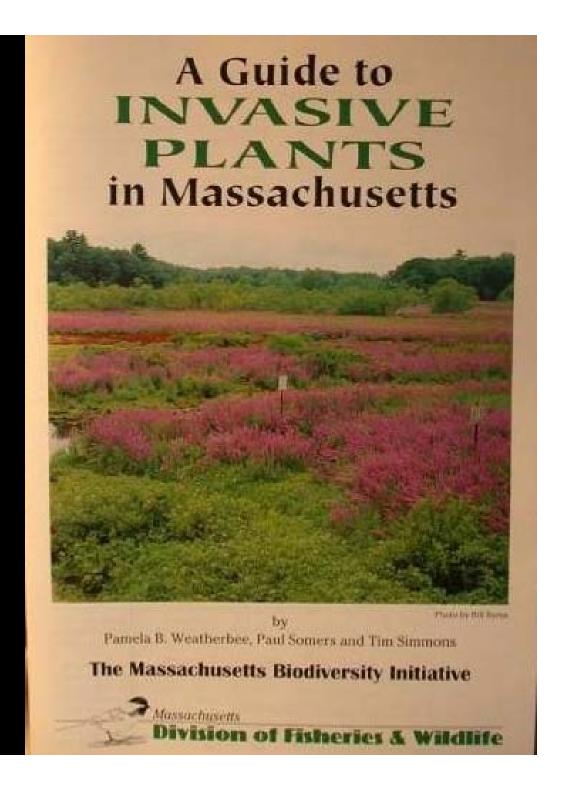


How did it all get started in Massachusetts?



Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group (MIPAG)

- formed in 1999 by the Ad Hoc Native Plant Advisory Committee
- to address the invasive plant issue in MA
- recognized by the Massachusetts Executive
 Office of Environmental Affairs as part of
 the Massachusetts Council on Invasive
 Species (coordinating mechanism for
 invasive species management activities
 within the Massachusetts)



Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group (MIPAG)

- voluntary collaboration among public and private organizations concerned about the problem of invasive plants in Massachusetts
- eighteen entities are represented
 - state and federal governmental agencies
 - fish and wildlife
 - agriculture
 - natural resources
 - horticulture industry (MNLA, NENA, ANLA)
 - academic science institutions
 - conservation organizations
 - land management
 - non-profit





To evaluate plants for invasiveness:

Step 1. MIPAG worked Les Mehrhoff, UConn

- to adopt definitions
 - * native and non-native species
 - * minimally and intensively managed habitats
- create a list of plant to be evaluated
- develop a set of biologically-based criteria to be used to evaluate invasiveness

Step 2. MIPAG contracted with Les Mehrhoff

- to gather data about selected species
- help assess which currently are invasive or have the potential to become problematic

Step 3. Ongoing evaluation of new species and update old





85 species were evaluated and identified as *Invasive*, *Likely Invasive*, or *Potentially Invasive*.

Species in which sufficient information or evidence is currently lacking for an adequate evaluation were designated as *Do not list at this time*.

An annotated list of all species evaluated was developed.

Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group

www.massnrc.org/mipag/

Web search: Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group

Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List MA General Law Chapter 128 Sec. 2 & 16 - 31A

- MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources (MDAR), worked with the MA Nursery and Landscape Association
- effective January 1, 2006 limited to the importation, sale, trade, and distribution and does not impact existing plantings
- provides a "phase-out" exception to minimize financial impacts on MA ornamental nursery industry
- "No-exception species" Importation Ban & Propagation Ban - January 1, 2006

Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List MA General Law Chapter 128 Sec. 2 & 16 - 31A

http://www.mass.gov/agr/farmproducts/Prohibited_Plant_Index2.htm

Sterile cultivar issue: remains OPEN, subcommittee currently working

Massachusetts Nursery Industry Response:

- propagating and/or selling new species
- promoting environment resposibiltiy

MIPAG developed and outlined invasive-plant-management objectives for the Commonwealth in Strategic Recommendations for Managing Invasive Plants in Massachusetts.

- development of early detection and rapid response system
- research, management and education priorities

Strategic Recommendations

for Managing Invasive Plants in Massachusetts

Manachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group Final Report • February 28, 2005



www.massnrc.org/mipag/ then click on "Publications"

Guidance for the Effective Management of Invasive Plants

Guidance for the Effective Management of Invasive Plants



Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group (MIPAG)

Version 1 August 2012

