Invasive Plant Pest Species of South Carolina | SC-EPPC 2008 List Update

ew observations, increasing threats, and distribution changes of invasive exotic plant species in South Carolina over the past four years prompted an update of the South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council (SC-EPPC) species list. All species on the 2004 list were checked against the South Carolina Plant Atlas, the Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council's Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System (EDDMapS), and the USDA Plants Database for distribution and nomenclature changes. Several queries for information were sent out to a panel of professional and amateur botanists, field ecologists,

land managers, SC-EPPC members, and others experienced with South Carolina natural communities and exotic plant species. Information requested and received included comments on distributions and characteristics of previously listed species, additional species to list, and suggestions for threat category designations.

Categories were expanded to include several species that are not known to be in South Carolina at present, but pose severe threats to natural communities in adjacent and nearby states. This category (Watch B) includes species that are targeted for Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) efforts. The panel of plant list reviewers consisted of Joel Gramling (The Citadel), Doug Rayner



(Wofford College), Jan Haldeman (Erskine College), John Nelson (Curator, USC Herbarium), Chick Gaddy (Private Consultant), Steve Compton (Clemson Dept. Plant Industry), Bert Pittman (Botanist, SC DNR), Jean Everett (The College of Charleston), Jim Miller (USFS), Robin Mackie (USFS), Randy Westbrooks (USGS), Johnny Stowe (SC DNR), John Brubaker (SC Native Plant Society and SC-EPPC), Colette DeGarady (SC TNC and SC-EPPC), Sudie Daves (NRCS), David Bourgeois (MeadWestvaco), Bill Hulslander (NPS), and Elyse Benson (NRCS).

The SC-EPPC List brochure also was recently updated with the new list and additional species profiles with photographs. Clemson University's Jeanne Campbell and Pat Layton are credited with this update and subsequent printing of the new SC-EPPC List brochure. Funds for printing were provided by Clemson University.

For copies of the Species List and/or brochure please check the SC-EPPC website at: http://www.se-eppc.org/, or contact Colette DeGarady at The Nature Conservancy, 960 Morrison Drive, Suite 100, Charleston, SC 29464; 843-937-8807 x-15; cdegarady@TNC.ORG.

For additional information, contact SC-EPPC president John Brubaker, brubakerj@tds.net; 843-928-4001.

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