

**PRISM**  
 (New York Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management)  
**NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

PRISM: Adirondack Park Invasive Program

Scientific name: Cynanchum rossicum      USDA Plants Code: CYRO8  
 Common names: Pale or European swallow-wort  
 Native Distribution: Central Eurasia  
 Date Assessed: December 7 2015  
 PRISM Assessors: Zachary Simek  
 PRISM Reviewers: Brendan Quirion, Daniel Spada, Chris Zimmerman  
 Date Approved: 4/7/2016      Form version date: 13 April 2009  
 New York Relative Maximum score: 87.63      Date NY assessment approved: April 15, 2009  
 New York State Invasive Rank: Very High

**SUMMARY OF PRISM RANKING RESULTS:**

**Distribution:** Restricted  
**Estimated number of infested sites:** >1  
**PRISM Invasiveness Rank<sup>§</sup>:** High



**A. DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE (KNOWN/POTENTIAL):**

1. What is the species distribution and abundance in the PRISM?
- |                                                                                                                                                    |             |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| A. Not present                                                                                                                                     | Not Present |
| B. Occurs in three or fewer natural areas (locations that are at least ¼ mile apart) with no infested area* >1 acre or containing >100 individuals | Restricted  |
| C. Present in 4–10 natural areas, or with one occupied location >1 acre or containing >100 individuals                                             | Common      |
| D. Present in >10 minimally managed areas                                                                                                          | Widespread  |
| U. Unknown                                                                                                                                         | Unknown     |

Answer: Restricted

Describe distribution:  
 There is currently 1 documented and mapped *Cynanchum rossicum* infestation within the Adirondack PRISM. It falls along a dirt road in the middle of forest preserve so it can be presumed that there are additional infestations in the surrounding landscape, but no plants have been detected during follow up surveys.  
 Sources of information:  
 Terrestrial Invasive Species Distribution Data (WIMS)

<sup>§</sup>Not Assessable: not persistent in the PRISM, or not found outside of cultivation.

\*Definition of “infested area” is the “...actual or percentage of land occupied by [canopy cover of] weed plants” NAWMA (North American Weed Management Association) 2002. North American Invasive Plant Mapping Standards (see <http://www.nawma.org/>).

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2. What is the likelihood the species will occur (if not yet present) or expand its distribution and abundance (if already present) in the PRISM?

Answer: Moderately likely

Documentation (e.g.: history of establishment in PRISM, suitability of habitats and climate, distribution models, literature, expert opinions):

With light, tufted seeds that can easily spread long distances by wind, there is a high likelihood that pale swallow-wort could expand its distribution into natural areas. However, as of 2015 the one known infestation had no invasive plants observed following control efforts. Therefore, the only potential seed source would be from undocumented infestations.

Sources of information:

Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009; Field reports from APIPP staff, "Pale swallow-wort," 2015

**B. INVASIVENESS RANK IN THE PRISM:**

Is the species distribution Widespread or Common?

Yes: Go to column A in table below.

No: What is the likelihood of species occurrence or expansion? Answer: Moderately likely

- Very Likely:                    Use column A below
- Moderately likely:        Use column B below
- Unlikely:                      Use column C below
- Zero likelihood              Invasive potential Insignificant
- Unknown                      Invasive potential Unknown
- Not assessed                 Invasive potential not assessed

Assign a PRISM invasiveness rank to the species based on its New York Relative Maximum Score, using the designated column in the table below.

New York Relative Maximum Score	New York Invasiveness Rank	A	B	C
> 80.00	Very High	VH	H	M
70.00–80.00	High	H	M	L
50.00–69.99	Moderate	M	L	Ins
40.00–49.99	Low	L	Ins	Ins
<40.00	Insignificant	Ins	Ins	Ins

**Column used: B (Insert PRISM Invasiveness Rank on page 1)**

**References for species assessment:**

APIPP's Terrestrial Invasive Species Distribution Data (WIMS). [Accessed March 01, 2012]

Brooklyn Botanic Garden. 2009. AILANTHUS database. [Accessed on 7 April 2009]. Cappuccino, N. 2004. Allee effect in an invasive alien plant, pale swallow-wort *Vincetoxicum rossicum* (Asclepiadaceae). *Oikos*. 106(1):3-8.

Pale swallowwort. (2015, November 5). Retrieved December 7, 2015, from [https://www.eddmaps.org/ipane/ipanespecies/herbs/Cynanchum\\_rossicum.htm](https://www.eddmaps.org/ipane/ipanespecies/herbs/Cynanchum_rossicum.htm)

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**Citation:** This ranking form for regions within NYS may be cited as: Jordan, M.J., G. Moore and T.W. Weldy. 2008. Invasiveness ranking system for non-native plants of New York. Unpublished. The Nature Conservancy, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, NY; The Nature Conservancy, Albany, NY. Note that the order of authorship is alphabetical; all three authors contributed substantially to the development of this protocol.

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