

PRISM

New York Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management.

NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM FOR NATURAL / MINIMALLY MANAGED AREAS

PRISM: Adirondack Park Invasive Program

Scientific name: Ailanthus altissima USDA Plants Code: AIAL
Common names: Tree-of-heaven
Native Distribution: Central China and Taiwan
Date Assessed: December 2, 2015
PRISM Assessors: Zachary Simek
PRISM Reviewers: Brendan Quirion, Steve Young, Daniel Spada, Chris Zimmerman
Date Approved: 4/7/2016 Form version date: 6 September 2012

New York Relative Maximum score: 77 Date NY assessment approved: July 21, 2008

New York State Invasive Rank: High
(for natural areas)

SUMMARY OF PRISM RANKING RESULTS:

Distribution: Restricted

Estimated number of infested sites: 4

PRISM Invasiveness Rank[§]: 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 are currently 4 approximate infestations of tree-of-heaven located in the Adirondack PRISM based on historic herbarium specimens. All four infestations are located in close proximity. However, ground truthing is required to determine if individuals are still present on the landscape. Absence will be assumed until infestations are positively identified.

Sources of information:

iMapInvasives, 2016

[§]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:

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

Tree-of-heaven is widely distributed across central and southern New York State. There are also reports of occurrences present in Warren County in the Adirondack Park from 1948-1955, but ground truthing is required to determine whether individuals are still present on the landscape. Tree-of-heaven is reported to be established in Maine, southern Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec which suggests its distribution is not limited by cold temperatures (Fryer, 2010). The species is known to be highly invasive in natural areas.

Sources of information:

Fryer, 2010; New York Flora Association, 2008

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:

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: **A** (Insert PRISM Invasiveness Rank on page 1)

References for species assessment:

Fryer, Janet L. 2010. *Ailanthus altissima*. In: Fire Effects Information System, [Online]. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station, Fire Sciences Laboratory (Producer). Available: <http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/> [2015, December 2].

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New York Flora Association. 2008. New York Flora Atlas. [Accessed December, 2nd 2015].

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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