

NEW YORK

NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

Scientific name:	Rubus phoenicolasius	USDA Plants Code: RUPH
Common names:	Wineberry	
Native distribution:	East Asia	
Date assessed:	January 8, 2009	
Assessors:	Steve Glenn, Gerry Moore	
Reviewers:	LIISMA SRC	
Date Approved:	21 Jan. 2009	Form version date: 22 October 2008

New York Invasiveness Rank: Very High (Relative Maximum Score >80.00)

Distribution and Invasiveness Rank (<i>Obtain from PRISM invasiveness ranking form</i>)		
	Status of this species in each PRISM:	PRISM Invasiveness Rank
1	Adirondack Park Invasive Program	Not Assessed
2	Capital/Mohawk	Not Assessed
3	Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership	Not Assessed
4	Finger Lakes	Not Assessed
5	Long Island Invasive Species Management Area	Widespread
6	Lower Hudson	Not Assessed
7	Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario	Not Assessed
8	Western New York	Not Assessed

Invasiveness Ranking Summary (see details under appropriate sub-section)		Total (Total Answered*) Possible	Total
1	Ecological impact	40 (<u>30</u>)	24
2	Biological characteristic and dispersal ability	25 (<u>25</u>)	23
3	Ecological amplitude and distribution	25 (<u>25</u>)	23
4	Difficulty of control	10 (<u>10</u>)	7
	Outcome score	100 (<u>90</u>) ^b	77 ^a
	Relative maximum score †		85.56
	New York Invasiveness Rank §	Very High (Relative Maximum Score >80.00)	

* For questions answered “unknown” do not include point value in “Total Answered Points Possible.” If “Total Answered Points Possible” is less than 70.00 points, then the overall invasive rank should be listed as “Unknown.”

† Calculated as 100(a/b) to two decimal places.

§ Very High >80.00; High 70.00–80.00; Moderate 50.00–69.99; Low 40.00–49.99; Insignificant <40.00

A. DISTRIBUTION (KNOWN/POTENTIAL): Summarized from individual PRISM forms

<p>A1.1. Has this species been documented to persist without cultivation in NY? (reliable source; voucher not required)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes – continue to A1.2</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No – continue to A2.1</p> <p>A1.2. In which PRISMs is it known (see inset map)?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adirondack Park Invasive Program</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital/Mohawk</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finger Lakes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Long Island Invasive Species Management Area</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lower Hudson</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Western New York</p>	
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NEW YORK

NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

Documentation:

Sources of information:

Weldy & Werier, 2008; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

A2.1. What is the likelihood that this species will occur and persist outside of cultivation, given the climate in the following PRISMs? (obtain from PRISM invasiveness ranking form)

Not Assessed	Adirondack Park Invasive Program
Not Assessed	Capital/Mohawk
Not Assessed	Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership
Not Assessed	Finger Lakes
Very Likely	Long Island Invasive Species Management Area
Not Assessed	Lower Hudson
Not Assessed	Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario
Not Assessed	Western New York

Documentation:

Sources of information (e.g.: distribution models, literature, expert opinions):

Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

If the species does not occur and is not likely to occur with any of the PRISMs, then stop here as there is no need to assess the species.

A2.2. What is the current distribution of the species in each PRISM? (obtain rank from PRISM invasiveness ranking forms)

	Distribution
Adirondack Park Invasive Program	Not Assessed
Capital/Mohawk	Not Assessed
Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership	Not Assessed
Finger Lakes	Not Assessed
Long Island Invasive Species Management Area	Widespread
Lower Hudson	Not Assessed
Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario	Not Assessed
Western New York	Not Assessed

Documentation:

Sources of information:

Weldy & Werier, 2008; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

A2.3. Describe the potential or known suitable habitats within New York. Natural habitats include all habitats not under active human management. Managed habitats are indicated with an asterisk.

<p>Aquatic Habitats</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Salt/brackish waters <input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater tidal <input type="checkbox"/> Rivers/streams <input type="checkbox"/> Natural lakes and ponds <input type="checkbox"/> Vernal pools <input type="checkbox"/> Reservoirs/impoundments*	<p>Wetland Habitats</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Salt/brackish marshes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Freshwater marshes <input type="checkbox"/> Peatlands <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shrub swamps <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forested wetlands/riparian <input type="checkbox"/> Ditches* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beaches and/or coastal dunes	<p>Upland Habitats</p> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultivated* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grasslands/old fields <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shrublands <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forests/woodlands <input type="checkbox"/> Alpine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roadsides*
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Other potential or known suitable habitats within New York:

Documentation:

Sources of information:

Authors' personal observations; Mehrhoff et al., 2003; Gravuer, 2005; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

B. INVASIVENESS RANKING

1. ECOLOGICAL IMPACT

1.1. Impact on Natural Ecosystem Processes and System-Wide Parameters (e.g. fire regime, geomorphological changes (erosion, sedimentation rates), hydrologic regime, nutrient and mineral dynamics, light availability, salinity, pH)

- A. No perceivable impact on ecosystem processes based on research studies, or the absence of impact information if a species is widespread (>10 occurrences in minimally managed areas), has been well-studied (>10 reports/publications), and has been present in the northeast for >100 years. 0
- B. Influences ecosystem processes to a minor degree (e.g., has a perceivable but mild influence on soil nutrient availability) 3
- C. Significant alteration of ecosystem processes (e.g., increases sedimentation rates along streams or coastlines, reduces open water that are important to waterfowl) 7
- D. Major, possibly irreversible, alteration or disruption of ecosystem processes (e.g., the species alters geomorphology and/or hydrology, affects fire frequency, alters soil pH, or fixes substantial levels of nitrogen in the soil making soil unlikely to support certain native plants or more likely to favor non-native species) 10
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:

Identify ecosystem processes impacted (or if applicable, justify choosing answer A in the absence of impact information)

Can form dense stands in areas substantially reducing light availability making areas unsuitable for native lower growing species.

Sources of information:

Mehrhoff et al., 2003; Snyder & Kaufman, 2004; Grauver, 2005; authors' pers. obs.

1.2. Impact on Natural Community Structure

- A. No perceived impact; establishes in an existing layer without influencing its structure 0
- B. Influences structure in one layer (e.g., changes the density of one layer) 3
- C. Significant impact in at least one layer (e.g., creation of a new layer or elimination of an existing layer) 7
- D. Major alteration of structure (e.g., covers canopy, eradicating most or all layers below) 10
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:

Identify type of impact or alteration:

Wineberry tends to form large, very dense thickets. When it invades open habitats, these thickets can dramatically alter community structure, eliminating layers below the wineberry layer.

Sources of information:

Gravuer, 2005; authors' personal observations.

1.3. Impact on Natural Community Composition

- A. No perceived impact; causes no apparent change in native populations 0
- B. Influences community composition (e.g., reduces the number of individuals in one or more native species in the community) 3
- C. Significantly alters community composition (e.g., produces a significant reduction in the population size of one or more native species in the community) 7
- D. Causes major alteration in community composition (e.g., results in the extirpation of one or several native species, reducing biodiversity or change the community composition towards species exotic to the natural community) 10

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

U. Unknown

Score

10

Documentation:

Identify type of impact or alteration:

In the early 1930s, North American Rubus expert L. H. Bailey observed wineberry, in association with Japanese honeysuckle and tree-of-heaven, had completely altered the habitat at the type locality of a rare indigenous species of blackberry (*Rubus ostryifolius*) in Monmouth County, NJ. Bailey reported that wineberry was directly contributing to the species' decline at the time, and in fact this species is now listed as historical (SH.1) in New Jersey (Snyder & Kaufman, 2004). Also in New Jersey, the species can form thickets in mesic forests over dolomite, marble, shale, diabase, and traprock -- substrates that are known to support several rare plant communities and unique plant assemblages (Snyder & Kaufman, 2004)

One study on the Maryland coastal plain found that *Rubus phoenicolasius* had greater negative effects on a common, albeit non-native, herbaceous plant (*Duchesnea indica*) than a native congener (*R. argutus*). *R. phoenicolasius* therefore appears more likely to competitively exclude understory herbs which can coexist with native *Rubus*.

Sources of information:

Snyder & Kaufman, 2004; Gravuer, 2005; Innis, 2005.

1.4. Impact on other species or species groups (cumulative impact of this species on the animals, fungi, microbes, and other organisms in the community it invades. Examples include reduction in nesting/foraging sites; reduction in habitat connectivity; injurious components such as spines, thorns, burrs, toxins; suppresses soil/sediment microflora; interferes with native pollinators and/or pollination of a native species; hybridizes with a native species; hosts a non-native disease which impacts a native species)

- | | |
|---|----|
| A. Negligible perceived impact | 0 |
| B. Minor impact | 3 |
| C. Moderate impact | 7 |
| D. Severe impact on other species or species groups | 10 |
| U. Unknown | |

Score

U

Documentation:

Identify type of impact or alteration:

Studies on impacts on other species not done. More research especially needed to determine if *R. phoenicolasius* can and does hybridize with native raspberry species (e.g., *R. occidentalis*, *R. strigosus*).

Sources of information:

Total Possible	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 50px; text-align: center;">30</td></tr></table>	30
30		
Section One Total	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td style="width: 50px; text-align: center;">24</td></tr></table>	24
24		

2. BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND DISPERSAL ABILITY

2.1. Mode and rate of reproduction (provisional thresholds, more investigation needed)

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. No reproduction by seeds or vegetative propagules (i.e. plant sterile with no sexual or asexual reproduction). | 0 |
| B. Limited reproduction (fewer than 10 viable seeds per plant AND no vegetative reproduction; if viability is not known, then maximum seed production is less than 100 seeds per plant and no vegetative reproduction) | 1 |
| C. Moderate reproduction (fewer than 100 viable seeds per plant - if viability is not known, then maximum seed production is less than 1000 seeds per plant - OR limited successful | 2 |

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

- vegetative spread documented)
- D. Abundant reproduction with vegetative asexual spread documented as one of the plants prime reproductive means OR more than 100 viable seeds per plant (if viability is not known, then maximum seed production reported to be greater than 1000 seeds per plant.) 4
- U. Unknown

Score

4

Documentation:

Describe key reproductive characteristics (including seeds per plant):
 Produces numerous fruits and seeds. One 3 year study (Innis, 2005) found the number of seeds per fruit ranging from about 45-55. Also able to reproduce clonally through underground rhizomes, and capable of tip rooting from parts of the cane that touch the ground.

Sources of information:

Authors' personal observations; Mehrhoff et al., 2003; Innis, 2005.

2.2. Innate potential for long-distance dispersal (e.g. bird dispersal, sticks to animal hair, buoyant fruits, pappus for wind-dispersal)

- A. Does not occur (no long-distance dispersal mechanisms) 0
- B. Infrequent or inefficient long-distance dispersal (occurs occasionally despite lack of adaptations) 1
- C. Moderate opportunities for long-distance dispersal (adaptations exist for long-distance dispersal, but studies report that 95% of seeds land within 100 meters of the parent plant) 2
- D. Numerous opportunities for long-distance dispersal (adaptations exist for long-distance dispersal and evidence that many seeds disperse greater than 100 meters from the parent plant) 4
- U. Unknown

Score

4

Documentation:

Identify dispersal mechanisms:

Endozoochory. Mainly dispersed by avian and mammalian frugivores and possibly box turtles.

Sources of information:

Braun & Brooks, 1987; Mehrhoff et al., 2003.

2.3. Potential to be spread by human activities (both directly and indirectly – possible mechanisms include: commercial sales, use as forage/revegetation, spread along highways, transport on boats, contaminated compost, land and vegetation management equipment such as mowers and excavators, etc.)

- A. Does not occur 0
- B. Low (human dispersal to new areas occurs almost exclusively by direct means and is infrequent or inefficient) 1
- C. Moderate (human dispersal to new areas occurs by direct and indirect means to a moderate extent) 2
- D. High (opportunities for human dispersal to new areas by direct and indirect means are numerous, frequent, and successful) 3
- U. Unknown

Score

2

Documentation:

Identify dispersal mechanisms:

Wineberry was used for breeding stock for other species of Rubus and is still occasionally used to implement specific genes into other Rubus species through selective breeding. Numerous opportunities for indirect spread by discarding fruit and by machinery and moving of soil.

Sources of information:

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

Mehrhoff et al., 2003.

2.4. Characteristics that increase competitive advantage, such as shade tolerance, ability to grow on infertile soils, perennial habit, fast growth, nitrogen fixation, allelopathy, etc.

- A. Possesses no characteristics that increase competitive advantage 0
- B. Possesses one characteristic that increases competitive advantage 3
- C. Possesses two or more characteristics that increase competitive advantage 6
- U. Unknown

Score 6

Documentation:

Evidence of competitive ability:

Perennial habit, shade tolerance, occasionally observed on infertile soils (Moore, pers. obs.). One study found *R. phoenicolasius* had a significantly higher ratio of maximum photosynthetic rates to dark respiration, higher leaf nitrogen concentrations, and specific leaf areas than a native cogener (*Rubus argutus*). The same study found *R. phoenicolasius*' leaves appearing approximately 2 weeks prior to those of the native cogener- translating to at least a 6% advantage for seasonal carbon gain.

In addition, *R. phoenicolasius* had less dependence on cross-pollination to set fruit than *R. argutus*, and *R. phoenicolasius* produced significantly more seeds per fruit with significantly higher germination rates than *R. argutus*.

The same study hints at superior fruit display and palatability of *R. phoenicolasius* to frugivores, as there were significantly greater numbers of fruits taken from *R. phoenicolasius* than from the native *R. argutus*.

Finally, the study found the ability of *R. phoenicolasius* to recover following drought and a lack of dependence on mycorrhizal associations which could allow for a wider range of potential habitats. Wineberry's thorny habit may inhibit herbivory when it displaces plants that lack armature.

Sources of information:

Innis, 2005; Grauver, 2005; authors' pers obs.

2.5. Growth vigor

- A. Does not form thickets or have a climbing or smothering growth habit 0
- B. Has climbing or smothering growth habit, forms a dense layer above shorter vegetation, forms dense thickets, or forms a dense floating mat in aquatic systems where it smothers other vegetation or organisms 2
- U. Unknown

Score 2

Documentation:

Describe growth form:

Tends to form large, dense thickets.

Sources of information:

author's personal observations (Glenn); Mehrhoff et al., 2003.

2.6. Germination/Regeneration

- A. Requires open soil or water and disturbance for seed germination, or regeneration from vegetative propagules. 0
- B. Can germinate/regenerate in vegetated areas but in a narrow range or in special conditions 2
- C. Can germinate/regenerate in existing vegetation in a wide range of conditions 3
- U. Unknown (No studies have been completed)

Score 2

Documentation:

Describe germination requirements:

Reported to have high germination rates, but these studies neither quantified nor related to

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

disturbance. One study suggests that survival of *R. phoenicolasius* seedlings may be limited to areas with low litter cover .
Sources of information:
Innis, 2005; Grauver, 2005.

2.7. Other species in the genus invasive in New York or elsewhere

- A. No 0
- B. Yes 3
- U. Unknown

Score 3

Documentation:

Species:

Rubus armeniacus listed as invasive in the Pacific Northwest and in Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council. This species is also a problem along the Appalachian Trail in Tennessee and North Carolina (Entrup, pers. comm.). Other non-native *Rubus* species reported from New York state but not treated as invasive.

Weldy & Werier, 2008; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009; USDA, National Invasive Species Information Center, 2009; Alex Entrup, pers. comm.

Total Possible 25
Section Two Total 23

3. ECOLOGICAL AMPLITUDE AND DISTRIBUTION

3.1. Density of stands in natural areas in the northeastern USA and eastern Canada (use same definition as Gleason & Cronquist which is: “The part of the United States covered extends from the Atlantic Ocean west to the western boundaries of Minnesota, Iowa, northern Missouri, and southern Illinois, south to the southern boundaries of Virginia, Kentucky, and Illinois, and south to the Missouri River in Missouri. In Canada the area covered includes Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and parts of Quebec and Ontario lying south of the 47th parallel of latitude”)

- A. No large stands (no areas greater than 1/4 acre or 1000 square meters) 0
- B. Large dense stands present in areas with numerous invasive species already present or disturbed landscapes 2
- C. Large dense stands present in areas with few other invasive species present (i.e. ability to invade relatively pristine natural areas) 4
- U. Unknown

Score 4

Documentation:

Identify reason for selection, or evidence of weedy history:

The appearance of new populations in previously uninvaded habitats with few other invasive species has been described and observed as infrequent, and evidence also suggests that it has little trouble establishing in mid-successional forests.

Sources of information:

Gravuer, 2005; authors' personal observations.

3.2. Number of habitats the species may invade

- A. Not known to invade any natural habitats given at A2.3 0
- B. Known to occur in two or more of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least one a natural habitat. 1
- C. Known to occur in three or more of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least two a natural habitat. 2
- D. Known to occur in four or more of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least three a natural 4

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

- habitat.
- E. Known to occur in more than four of the habitats given at A2.3, with at least four a natural habitat. 6
- U. Unknown
- Score

Documentation:
 Identify type of habitats where it occurs and degree/type of impacts:
 See A2.3.
 Sources of information:
 Authors' personal observations; Mehrhoff et al., 2003; Gravuer, 2005; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

3.3. Role of disturbance in establishment

- A. Requires anthropogenic disturbances to establish. 0
- B. May occasionally establish in undisturbed areas but can readily establish in areas with natural or anthropogenic disturbances. 2
- C. Can establish independent of any known natural or anthropogenic disturbances. 4
- U. Unknown
- Score

Documentation:
 Identify type of disturbance:
 The appearance of new isolated plants in previously uninvaded habitats has been described as infrequent; readily establishes in areas with natural or anthropogenic disturbance.
 Sources of information:
 Gravuer, 2005.

3.4. Climate in native range

- A. Native range does not include climates similar to New York 0
- B. Native range possibly includes climates similar to at least part of New York. 1
- C. Native range includes climates similar to those in New York 3
- U. Unknown
- Score

Documentation:
 Describe what part of the native range is similar in climate to New York:
 Northern China, Korea, northern Japan.
 Sources of information:
 Zhengyi et al., 2003; Gravuer, 2005; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009..

3.5. Current introduced distribution in the northeastern USA and eastern Canada (see question 3.1 for definition of geographic scope)

- A. Not known from the northeastern US and adjacent Canada 0
- B. Present as a non-native in one northeastern USA state and/or eastern Canadian province. 1
- C. Present as a non-native in 2 or 3 northeastern USA states and/or eastern Canadian provinces. 2
- D. Present as a non-native in 4–8 northeastern USA states and/or eastern Canadian provinces, and/or categorized as a problem weed (e.g., “Noxious” or “Invasive”) in 1 northeastern state or eastern Canadian province. 3
- E. Present as a non-native in >8 northeastern USA states and/or eastern Canadian provinces, and/or categorized as a problem weed (e.g., “Noxious” or “Invasive”) in 2 northeastern states or eastern Canadian provinces. 4
- U. Unknown
- Score

Documentation:

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

Identify states and provinces invaded:
 CT, DC, DE, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, MI, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV.
 Sources of information: See known introduced range in plants.usda.gov, and update with
 information from states and Canadian provinces.
 U.S.D.A., 2009

3.6. Current introduced distribution of the species in natural areas in the eight New York State PRISMs (Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management)

- A. Present in none of the PRISMs 0
- B. Present in 1 PRISM 1
- C. Present in 2 PRISMs 2
- D. Present in 3 PRISMs 3
- E. Present in more than 3 PRISMs or on the Federal noxious weed lists 4
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:
 Describe distribution:
 Documented from 6 of the 8 PRISMs.
 Sources of information:
 Weldy & Werier, 2008; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

Total Possible
 Section Three Total

4. DIFFICULTY OF CONTROL

4.1. Seed banks

- A. Seeds (or vegetative propagules) remain viable in soil for less than 1 year, or does not make viable seeds or persistent propagules. 0
- B. Seeds (or vegetative propagules) remain viable in soil for at least 1 to 10 years 2
- C. Seeds (or vegetative propagules) remain viable in soil for more than 10 years 3
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:
 Identify longevity of seed bank:
 Seeds can persist for more than one year; no evidence for more than 10.
 Sources of information:
 Author's (Moore's) personal observations.

4.2. Vegetative regeneration

- A. No regrowth following removal of aboveground growth 0
- B. Regrowth from ground-level meristems 1
- C. Regrowth from extensive underground system 2
- D. Any plant part is a viable propagule 3
- U. Unknown

Score

Documentation:
 Describe vegetative response:
 Able to reproduce clonally through underground rhizomes, and capable of tip rooting from parts of the cane that touch the ground.

**NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

Sources of information:
Innis, 2005.

4.3. Level of effort required

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| A. | Management is not required: e.g., species does not persist without repeated anthropogenic disturbance. | 0 |
| B. | Management is relatively easy and inexpensive: e.g. 10 or fewer person-hours of manual effort (pulling, cutting and/or digging) can eradicate a 1 acre infestation in 1 year (infestation averages 50% cover or 1 plant/100 ft ²). | 2 |
| C. | Management requires a major short-term investment: e.g. 100 or fewer person-hours/year of manual effort, or up to 10 person-hours/year using mechanical equipment (chain saws, mowers, etc.) for 2-5 years to suppress a 1 acre infestation. Eradication is difficult, but possible (infestation as above). | 3 |
| D. | Management requires a major investment: e.g. more than 100 person-hours/year of manual effort, or more than 10 person hours/year using mechanical equipment, or the use of herbicide, grazing animals, fire, etc. for more than 5 years to suppress a 1 acre infestation. Eradication may be impossible (infestation as above). | 4 |
| U. | Unknown | |

Score

3

Documentation:

Identify types of control methods and time-term required:

A common management prescription is mowing or cutting followed by an application of an herbicide such as triclopyr or glyphosate. On smaller areas, hand-pulling can be very effective. However, removal of all root material is essential to this approach, which makes it time- and labor-intensive. Because of the potential for re-sprouting, some follow-up is necessary. However, no source indicated that a prolonged effort would be necessary, so control can presumably be accomplished within 5 years.

Sources of information:
Gravuer, 2005.

Total Possible	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 50px; height: 20px;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">10</td></tr></table>	10
10		
Section Four Total	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 50px; height: 20px;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">7</td></tr></table>	7
7		

Total for 4 sections Possible	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 50px; height: 20px;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">90</td></tr></table>	90
90		
Total for 4 sections	<table border="1" style="display: inline-table; width: 50px; height: 20px;"><tr><td style="text-align: center;">77</td></tr></table>	77
77		

C. STATUS OF CULTIVARS AND HYBRIDS:

At the present time (May 2008) there is no protocol or criteria for assessing the invasiveness of cultivars independent of the species to which they belong. Such a protocol is needed, and individuals with the appropriate expertise should address this issue in the future. Such a protocol will likely require data on cultivar fertility and identification in both experimental and natural settings.

Hybrids (crosses between different parent species) should be assessed individually and separately from the parent species wherever taxonomically possible, since their invasiveness may differ from that of the parent species. An exception should be made if the taxonomy of the species and hybrids are uncertain, and species and hybrids can not be clearly distinguished in the field. In such cases it is not feasible to distinguish species and hybrids, and they can only be assessed as a single unit.

Some cultivars of the species known to be available:

References for species assessment:

NEW YORK
NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

Braun, J. & G. R. Brooks. 1987. Box turtles (*Terrapene carolina*) as potential agents for seed dispersal. *American Midland Naturalist*. 117(2):312-318.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden. 2009. AILANTHUS database. [Accessed on January 8, 2009].

Gravuer, K. 2005. *Rubus phoenicolasius*. U.S. Invasive Species Impact Rank (I-Rank). NatureServe Explorer. [Accessed on January 8, 2009].

Innis, A. F. 2005. Comparative ecology of the invasive *Rubus phoenicolasius* and the native *Rubus argutus*. Ph.D. dissertation. University of Maryland. 146 pp.

Mehrhoff, L. J., J. A. Silander, Jr., S. A. Leicht, E. S. Mosher and N. M. Tabak. 2003. IPANE: Invasive Plant Atlas of New England. [Online]. Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA. [Accessed on 8 January 2009].

United States Department of Agriculture, National Invasive Species Information Center. 2009. [Accessed on January 8, 2009].

United States Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service. 2009. The PLANTS Database. National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana [Accessed on January 8, 2009].

Weldy, T. & D. Werier. 2008 New York Flora Atlas. [S. M. Landry and K. N. Campbell (original application development), Florida Center for Community Design and Research. University of South Florida]. New York Flora Association, Albany, New York. [Accessed on January 8, 2009].

Zhengyi, W., P. H. Raven, & H. Deyuan. 2003. *Flora of China Volume 9*. Missouri Botanical Gardens Press, St. Louis, MO. 496 pp.

Citation: This NY ranking form 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.

Acknowledgments: The NY form incorporates components and approaches used in several other systems, cited in the references below. Valuable contributions by members of the Long Island Invasive Species Management Area's Scientific Review Committee were incorporated in revisions of this form. Original members of the LIISMA SRC included representatives of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden; The Nature Conservancy; New York Natural Heritage Program, New York Sea Grant; New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation; National Park Service; Brookhaven National Laboratory; New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 1; Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk/Nassau Counties; Long Island Nursery and Landscape Association; Long Island Farm Bureau; SUNY Farmingdale Ornamental Horticulture Department; Queens College Biology Department; Long Island Botanical Society; Long Island Weed Information Management System database manager; Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation; Nassau County Department of Parks, Recreation and Museums; Suffolk County Soil & Water Conservation District.

References for ranking form:

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