

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

251 Causeway Street, Suite 500, Boston, MA 02114
617-626-1700 fax: 617-626-1850 www.mass.gov/agr



CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lt. Governor

BETHANY A. CARD
Secretary

JOHN LEBEAUX
Commissioner

TO: Massachusetts Invasive Plant Advisory Group (“MIPAG”)

FROM: John Lebeaux, Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources

REGARDING: The request to add the following plants onto the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List:

Cytisus scoparius (L.) Link (Scotch broom)- Designated as Likely Invasive

Eragrostis curvula (Schrad.) Nees (Weeping Lovegrass)- Designated as Invasive

Pinus thunbergii Parl. (Japanese Black Pine)- Designated as Likely Invasive

DATE: November 14, 2022

On July 12, 2022, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (“Department”) held a public hearing regarding the addition of the above-listed plants to the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List (“List”). The Department also received written comments prior and up to 5:00 pm on July 15, 2022. The written and verbal comments provided to the Department were in support of listing the above listed species. After reviewing the scientific information provided by MIPAG in its request and reviewing the comments, the Department has made the determination that all the above listed pose a threat to land in Massachusetts and therefore approves the MIPAG request to add the species to the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List.

The Department recognizes the importance of the control and prevention of invasive species as well as the associated impacts that a prohibition of a plant may have. The Department values the ongoing work and information provided by the MIPAG.

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TO: Nursery Agents/Growers
FROM: Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources
REGARDING: Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List
DATE: December 30, 2022

On November 14, 2022, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources ("MDAR") added the following species to the Massachusetts Prohibited Plant List:

- ***Cytisus scoparius* (L.) Link (Scotch broom)**- Designated as Likely Invasive
- ***Eragrostis curvula* (Schrud.) Nees (Weeping Lovegrass)**- Designated as Invasive
- ***Pinus thunbergii* Parl. (Japanese Black Pine)**- Designated as Likely Invasive

Agents/Growers can no longer receive new stock or begin growing new stock but may sell any existing stock during the phase out period listed below:

- ***Cytisus scoparius* (L.) Link (Scotch broom)**- 2 years, No longer for sale after December 31, 2024
- ***Eragrostis curvula* (Schrud.) Nees (Weeping Lovegrass)**- 1 year, No longer for sale after December 31, 2023
- ***Pinus thunbergii* Parl. (Japanese Black Pine)**- 3 years, No longer for sale after December 31, 2025

MDAR will work to ensure that Agents/Growers are aware of the addition to the list and the phase out period. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Taryn LaScola-Miner at taryn.lascola@mass.gov.