



**MARIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

**STACY K. CARLSEN**  
COMMISSIONER/DIRECTOR

**FRED W. CROWDER**  
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER/DIRECTOR

February 2, 2010

To: Marin Nursery Owners and Residents Purchasing Plants  
Regarding: County Invasive Plant / Weed Policy

Dear Nursery Owner/Operator

On February 14, 1995, the Marin County Board of Supervisors adopted a weed policy to discourage the import, sale or cultivation of the following non-native invasive plants;

- Andean and Pampas grass, *Cortaderia jubata* and *C. selloana*
- French broom, *Genista monspessulana*.
- Scotch broom, *Cytisus scoparius*.
- Gorse, *Ulex europaeus*, and
- Blue-gum eucalyptus, *Eucalyptus globulus*.

On August 7, 2007, the Marin County Board of Supervisors amended the policy to include;

- All brooms, fertile and infertile, of the genera *Genista*, *Cytisus*, *Retama*, and *Spartium*
- Capeweed, fertile and infertile, (*Arctotheca calendula*)
- *Cotoneaster lacteus*, *C. panosus*, and *C. franchetti*)
- Giant reed (*Arundo donax*)
- Acacia or black wattle (*Acacia decurrens*, *A. dealbata*, *A. melanoxylon*)
- Ice plant (*Carpobrotus edulis*, and *Mesembryanthemum crystallinum*)
- *Myoporum* (*Myoporum laetum*)
- Chinese Tallow Tree (*Sapium sebiferum*)
- Scarlet wisteria (*Sesbania punicea*)
- Salt Cedar (*Tamarix ramossoma*)
- Green Fountain grass (*Pennisetum setaceum*)
- Periwinkle (*Vinca major*)
- Ivy (*Hedera helix*, *H. canariensis*, *H. hibernica*)

Many of these plants are already found along Marin's urban/wild land interface and have had a substantial impact on our native flora. All of the plants on the list are found in Marin and have displayed invasive tendencies either in Marin or in other North Bay communities. Proactively addressing further import, sale, or cultivation will minimize introduction and spread as well as the potential for future eradication costs or chemical use in control projects.

Our office will continue efforts to educate the public and work with local nurseries and landscapers to voluntarily curb sales and planting of invasive plants. This program has been successful because we share an interest in preserving native flora and fauna. Alternative plants are available online at [Plantright.org](http://Plantright.org) and [Cal-ipc.org](http://Cal-ipc.org). If you have any concerns, comments, or if this action will significantly impact your business operation, please contact our office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Stacy K. Carlsen  
Agricultural Commissioner / Director