

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

PRISM: Long Island Invasive Species Management Area

Scientific name: Dioscorea polystachya (D. oppositifolia L. misapplied) USDA Plants Code: DIOP

Common names: Chinese yam, Cinnamon vine

Native Distribution: East Asia

Date Assessed: March 5, 2009

PRISM Assessors: Steve Glenn, Gerry Moore

PRISM Reviewers: LIISMA SRC

Date Approved: 1 Apr. 2009 Form version date: 3 March 2009

New York Relative Maximum score: 77.50 Date NY assessment approved: 1 Apr. 2009

New York State Invasive Rank: High

**SUMMARY OF PRISM RANKING RESULTS:**

**Distribution:** Restricted

**Estimated number of infested sites:** 3

**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:  
Three documented sites on Long Island since 1980.  
Sources of information:  
Brooklyn Botanic Garden. 2009.

\*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: Very likely

Documentation (e.g.: history of establishment in PRISM, suitability of habitats and climate, distribution models, literature, expert opinions):  
Suitability of habitats and climate.  
Sources of information:  
Zhengyi & Raven, 2000.

**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

- 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:**

Brooklyn Botanic Garden. 2009. AILANTHUS database. [Accessed on March 5, 2009].

Zhengyi, W. & P. H. Raven (eds.). 2000. Flora of China. Vol. 24. Missouri Botanical Garden Press, St. Louis, MO. 431 pp.

**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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