

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

PRISM: Long Island Invasive Species Management Area

Scientific name:	Lotus corniculatus L.	USDA Plants Code: LOCO6
Common names:	Bird's-foot trefoil	
Native Distribution	Eurasia, northern Africa	
Date Assessed:	August 5, 2009	
PRISM Assessors:	Steve Glenn, Gerry Moore	
PRISM Reviewers:	LIISMA SRC	
Date Approved:	19 Aug 2009	Form version date: 13 April 2009
New York Relative Maximum score:	59.00	Date NY assessment approved: 19 Aug 2009
New York State Invasive Rank:	Moderate	

SUMMARY OF PRISM RANKING RESULTS:

Distribution: Widespread

Estimated number of infested sites: 50+

PRISM Invasiveness Rank[§]: Moderate



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: Widespread

Describe distribution:
 Documented from 50+ sites on Long Island and Staten Island since 1980.
 Sources of information:
 Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

[§]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):

Well established in PRISM.

NOTE: A perusal of the *Lotus corniculatus* literature finds a large number of cultivars, "genotypes", "ecotypes", "races", and "lines" developed over the years ('Empire', the first cultivar developed in North America, was actually developed in NY State and "selected for persistence") (Grant, 2004); and is considered the most variable of all *Lotus* spp. (Turkington & Franko, 1980). There is a concomitant report of great morphological, physiological, and ecological variation, making invasive assessment problematic.

Sources of information:

Turkington & Franko, 1980; Grant, 2004; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

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:

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

Grant, W. F. 2004. List of *Lotus corniculatus* (birdsfoot trefoil), *L. uliginosus*/*L. pedunculatus* (big trefoil), *L. glaber* (narrowleaf trefoil), and *L. subbiflorus* cultivars. Part 1. Cultivars with known or tentative country of origin. *Lotus Newsletter*. 34:12-26.

Turkington R. & G. D. Franko. 1980. The biology of Canadian weeds. 41. *Lotus corniculatus* L. *Canad. J. Pl. Sci.* 60:965-979.

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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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