

# NEW YORK NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM

Scientific name: Spiraea japonica USDA Plants Code: SPJA  
 Common names: Japanese spiraea  
 Native distribution: Eastern Asia  
 Date assessed: April 3, 2009; edited May 15, 2009  
 Assessors: Steve Glenn, Gerry Moore  
 Reviewers: LIISMA SRC  
 Date Approved: April 29, 2009 Form version date: 3 March 2009

**New York Invasiveness Rank:** Moderate (Relative Maximum Score 50.00-69.99)

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

<b>Invasiveness Ranking Summary</b> (see details under appropriate sub-section)		Total (Total Answered*) Possible	Total
1	Ecological impact	40 ( <u>20</u> )	6
2	Biological characteristic and dispersal ability	25 ( <u>22</u> )	17
3	Ecological amplitude and distribution	25 ( <u>25</u> )	21
4	Difficulty of control	10 ( <u>10</u> )	4
	Outcome score	100 ( <u>77</u> ) <sup>b</sup>	48 <sup>a</sup>
	Relative maximum score †		62.34
	New York Invasiveness Rank §	Moderate (Relative Maximum Score 50.00-69.99)	

\* 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

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

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**Documentation:**

Sources of information:

Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009; Weldy & Werier, 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
Unlikely	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):

Reportedly cultivated on Long Island as early as the 1920s (Grier & Grier, 1929), but no escapes from cultivation are known on LI. Of five records for Orange, Otsego, Sullivan and Ulster Counties at least two appear to be escapes from cultivation: Denning in Ulster Co. (Catskills) 15 Jul 87 NYFA 7053; and Orange County (Lower Hudson) 1990 NYS Museum, D. Werier. All occurrences were along roadsides or edges of woods.

***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	Not Present
Lower Hudson	Not Assessed
Saint Lawrence/Eastern Lake Ontario	Not Assessed
Western New York	Not Assessed

**Documentation:**

Sources of information:

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><b>Aquatic Habitats</b></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><b>Wetland Habitats</b></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 type="checkbox"/> Beaches and/or coastal dunes	<p><b>Upland Habitats</b></p> <input type="checkbox"/> Cultivated* <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grasslands/old fields <input type="checkbox"/> Shrublands <input type="checkbox"/> Forests/woodlands <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alpine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roadsides*
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Other potential or known suitable habitats within New York:

Railroad banks, river banks, utility ROWs.

**Documentation:**

Sources of information:

Remaley, 1998; Zhengyi & Raven, 2003; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

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**B. INVASIVENESS RANKING**

Questions apply to areas similar in climate and habitats to New York unless specified otherwise.

*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 

U
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<b>Documentation:</b> Identify ecosystem processes impacted (or if applicable, justify choosing answer A in the absence of impact information) No studies on the impact on natural ecosystem processes located. <b>Sources of information:</b> Fellows, 2004.	
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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 

3
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<b>Documentation:</b> Identify type of impact or alteration: Increases the density in the shrub layer it occurs in. No evidence of significant impact or major alteration of structure. <b>Sources of information:</b> Remaley, 1998; Fellows, 2004; authors' pers. obs.	
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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

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- population size of one or more native species in the community)
- 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
- U. Unknown

Score 

3
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**Documentation:**

Identify type of impact or alteration:

Reported to "readily infest" streambanks and roadsides, and once established, to grow rapidly and form dense stands that outcompete much of the existing native herbs and shrubs (Remaley, 1998; Randall & Marinelli, 1996). Present on 4 invasive species lists in the southeastern US (Fellows, 2004). Limited observations locally in NY and adjacent states show the species to be reducing the number of native species in the community but not causing significant or major alterations in community structure.

Sources of information:

Remaley, 1998; Fellows, 2004; authors' pers. obs.

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
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**Documentation:**

Identify type of impact or alteration:

No studies of the impact on others species known.

Sources of information:

Fellows, 2004.

Total Possible 

20
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Section One Total 

6
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**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 vegetative spread documented) 2
- 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
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**Documentation:**

Describe key reproductive characteristics (including seeds per plant):

A single plant produces hundreds of small usually viable seeds. Also vigorous vegetative spread; roots can fragment and sprout.

Sources of information:

Randall & Marinelli, 1996; Remaley, 1998; author's (Moore's) pers. obs.

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

**Documentation:**

Identify dispersal mechanisms:

Seeds reported to be spread by water (hydrochory).

Sources of information:

Remaley, 1998.

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

**Documentation:**

Identify dispersal mechanisms:

Planted as an ornamental with many cultivars on the market. Also seeds may also be carried in fill dirt and establish new populations in the highly disturbed soil of construction sites.

Sources of information:

Remaley, 1998; Randall & Marinelli, 1996; authors' pers. obs.

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   |   |

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<b>Documentation:</b> Evidence of competitive ability: Perennial shrub; reported to tolerate alkaline soil conditions and full sun to partial shade (Remaley, 1998). Studies of populations in China revealed high genetic diversity, perhaps enhancing ecological amplitude (Zhang et al., 2008). Sources of information: Remaley, 1998.; Zhang et al., 2008.	
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**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  |   | 0 |

<b>Documentation:</b> Describe growth form: Not known to exhibit smothering growth habit or form dense thickets. Sources of information: Remaley, 1998; Randall & Marinelli, 1996; Fellows, 2004; authors' pers. obs.	
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**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  |   | U |

<b>Documentation:</b> Describe germination requirements: Seeds of <i>S. japonica</i> var. <i>acuminata</i> reportedly required no pretreatment for germination; no other studies on germination located. Sources of information: Dirr, 1987.	
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**2.7. Other species in the genus invasive in New York or elsewhere**

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

<b>Documentation:</b> Species: <i>Spiraea cantoniensis</i> , <i>Spiraea prunifolia</i> , <i>Spiraea thunbergii</i> , <i>Spiraea trilobata</i> , <i>Spiraea x billiardii</i> , & <i>Spiraea x vanhouttei</i> reported adventive in NY; none known to be invasive. <i>Spiraea thunbergii</i> is reported to be invasive in PA and further south (Kaufman, 2007). Kaufman, 2007; Weldy & Werier, 2009.	
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Total Possible	22
Section Two Total	17

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**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

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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:  
Large stands over 0.25 acres documented from Kentucky (Big South Fork National River and recreation Area) occurring in areas with no other invasives already present. No such stands known from New York or adjacent states.

Sources of information:

Fellows, 2004; A. Entrup and 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 habitat. 4
- 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 6

**Documentation:**

Identify type of habitats where it occurs and degree/type of impacts:  
See A2.3.

Sources of information:

Remaley, 1998; Zhengyi & Raven, 2003; 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 2

**Documentation:**

Identify type of disturbance:  
Readily establishes in disturbed areas; no evidence that it requires anthropogenic disturbance.

Sources of information:

Remaley, 1998; Fellows, 2004; authors' pers. obs.

**3.4. Climate in native range**

- A. Native range does not include climates similar to New York 0

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- 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 3

**Documentation:**

Describe what part of the native range is similar in climate to New York:  
Northern China, Korea, Japan.  
Sources of information:  
Zhengyi & Raven, 2003; 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 4

**Documentation:**

Identify states and provinces invaded:  
Reported from all northeastern US states except Iowa, Minnesota, Vermont, and Wisconsin; also reported from Nova Scotia and Ontario.  
Sources of information: See known introduced range in plants.usda.gov, and update with information from states and Canadian provinces.  
Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009; USDA, 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 2

**Documentation:**

Describe distribution:  
Catskills and Lower Hudson.  
Sources of information:  
Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009; Weldy & Werier, 2009.

Total Possible 25  
Section Three Total 21

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**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 2

**Documentation:**  
 Identify longevity of seed bank:  
 Seeds reported to last for "many years" in the soil, but no evidence for viability longer than 10 years.  
 Sources of information:  
 Remaley, 1998; Fellows, 2004.

**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 2

**Documentation:**  
 Describe vegetative response:  
 Spiraea resprouts after cutting from extensive underground root system, making repeated cutting necessary to exhaust the plants energy reserves.  
 Sources of information:  
 Remaley, 1998; Fellows, 2004.

**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<sup>2</sup>). 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 0

**Documentation:**  
 Identify types of control methods and time-term required:  
  
 In New York, the species has been present a long time with no large stands having been noted that have required management. In southern states, large stands have been noted and management techniques used are discussed below.  
  
**Mechanical:**  
 Cutting or mowing Japanese spiraea shrubs may be effective for small, initial populations or

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for environmentally sensitive areas where herbicides cannot be used. Repeated mowing or cutting will control the spread of spiraea, but will probably not eradicate it. Spiraea resprouts after cutting, making repeated cutting necessary to exhaust the plants energy reserves. Stems should be cut at least once per growing season, prior to seed production, and cut as close to ground level as possible.

**Chemical:**

Foliar herbicide applications should be considered for large thickets of Japanese spiraea where the risk to non-target plants is determined to be minimal. Applications may be made almost any time of year, as long as the air temperature is above 65°F, to ensure absorption of the chemical by the plant. Apply a 2% solution of glyphosate (e.g., Roundup or Rodeo®) or triclopyr (Garlon) and water plus a 0.5% non-ionic surfactant to thoroughly wet all leaves.

**Sources of information:**

Remaley, 1998.

Total Possible	10
Section Four Total	4

<b>Total for 4 sections Possible</b>	77
<b>Total for 4 sections</b>	48

**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: ‘Gold Mound’, ‘Mertyann’ (Dakota Goldcharm®), ‘Golden Dome’, ‘Golden Princess’, ‘Lemon Princess’, ‘Little Princess’, ‘Macrophylla’, ‘Neon Flash’, var. alpina, ‘Shirobana’ (syn. ‘Shibori’). Cultivars attributed to *S. x bumalda*, but often are labeled (or actually be?) *S. japonica*: ‘Anthony Waterer’, ‘Crispa’, ‘Froebelii’, ‘Goldflame’, ‘Limemound’, ‘Magic Carpet.’ J. Lehrer (personal communication)

**References for species assessment:**

Brooklyn Botanic Garden. 2009. AILANTHUS database. [Accessed on 3 April 2009].

Dirr, M. A. 1987. The reference manual of woody plant propagation. Varsity Press, Athens, GA. 239 pp.

Fellows, M. 2004. *Spiraea japonica*. U.S. Invasive Species Impact Rank (I-Rank). NatureServe Explorer. <www.natureserve.org>. [Accessed on 3 April 2009].

Grier, N. M. & C. R. Grier. 1929. A list of plants growing under cultivation in the vicinity of Cold Spring Harbor, New York. Amer. Midland Naturalist. 11(6/7):307-387.

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Kaufman 2007

Randall, J.M. & J. Marinelli (eds.) 1996. Invasive plants: weeds of the global garden. Brooklyn Botanic Garden, New York. 111 pp.

Remaley, T. 1998. Japanese Spiraea- *Spiraea japonica*. Plant Conservation Alliance Alien Plant Working Group. Least wanted. <<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/spja1.htm>> . [Accessed on 3 April 2009].

United States Department of Agriculture, National Resources Conservation Service. 2009. The PLANTS Database. National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana [Accessed on 3 April 2009].

Weldy, T. & D. Werier. 2009. 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 3 April 2009].

Zhang, Z., N. Du, C. Pu, Z. Gu, & Z. Zhou. 2008. Environmental heterogeneity decides bio-heterogeneity of the *Spiraea japonica* complex (Rosaceae) in China. *Australian Journal of Botany*. 56(1):91-95.

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**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.

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