



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE • WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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August 7, 2007

Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

SUBJECT: MODIFICATION OF COUNTY'S EXISTING WEED POLICY

Dear Supervisors:

SUMMARY: On February 14, 1995 the BOS resolved to adopt a Marin County weed policy that states:

- (a) *It shall be the policy of the County of Marin to discourage the import, sale or cultivation of the following non-native invasive plants:*
- (i) *Andean and Pampas grass, Cortaderia jubata and C. selloana (Both are known to run rampant in coastal areas.)*
 - (ii) *French broom, Genista monspessulana.*
 - (iii) *Scotch broom, Cytisus scoparius.*
 - (iv) *Gorse, Ulex europaeus.*
 - (v) *Blue-gum eucalyptus, Eucalyptus globulus.*
- (b) *The Public Works Department is urged to pursue the removal of such weeds along county rights-of-way, in conjunction with adjoining property owners, by the most economical and safe means available.*
- (c) *The Community Development Agency is encouraged to include in guidelines for subdivision development (both commercial and residential) and for coastal permits, the obligation to remove and to maintain the area free of such existing plants, and the prohibition against their future use in landscaping.*
- (d) *This policy is to be implemented through the voluntary collaboration of the organizations and agencies sponsoring this resolution and others.*

In the twelve years since the adoption of this policy, the Agricultural Commissioner in conjunction with the Marin-Sonoma Weed Management Area Group, California Native

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Plant Society and the California Invasive Plant Prevention Council has identified additional non-native and invasive plants that are sometimes imported, cultivated, and sold in North Bay garden centers and nurseries.

These additional plants have been found in Marin and are of concern because they have displayed invasive tendencies here, or in other California communities. Recognizing the invasive nature and potential native habitat impacts of these plants, the Agricultural Commissioner is requesting the Board of Supervisors amend the existing policy to additionally include the import, sale, or cultivation of the following non-native invasive plants:

1. All brooms, fertile and infertile (All species of the genera Genista, Cytissus, Retama, and Spartium)
2. Capeweed, fertile and infertile (Arctotheca calendula)
3. Cotoneaster lacteus, C. panosus, and C. franchetti)
4. Giant reed (Arundo donax)
5. Acacia or black wattle (Acacia decurrens, A. dealbata, A. melanoxylon)
6. Ice plant (Carpobrotus edulis, and Mesembryanthemum crystallinum)
7. Myoporum (Myoporum laetum)
8. Chinese Tallow Tree (Sapium sebiferum)
9. Scarlet wisteria (Sesbania punicea)
10. Salt Cedar (Tamarix ramossoma)
11. Green Fountain grass (Pennesetum setaceum)
12. Periwinkle (Vinca major)
13. Ivy (Hedera helix, H. canariensis, H. hibernica)

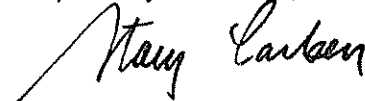
RECOMMENDATION: Amendment of existing policy to include additionally listed plants.

FISCAL IMPACT: None.

REVIEWED BY:

<input type="checkbox"/> Auditor-Controller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> County Counsel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

Respectfully submitted,



Stacy K. Carlsen,
Agricultural Commissioner
Director of Weights and Measures