

Retail Nursery Survey

In the Summer of 2003, UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners in several areas of California conducted an informal survey of nurseries to look for 25 invasive plants. These 25 plants were taken from Cal-IP1's "Exotic Pest Plants of Greatest Ecological Concern in California," and are a subset of the plants listed there. The 25 plants were selected by Carl E. Bell, Regional Advisor-Invasive Plants in San Diego County.

In Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties, a team of ten Master Gardeners surveyed 23 local nurseries, including independent and chain outlets. Below are the results of their survey, starting with the most commonly found plants, and listing the number of nurseries (out of 23 surveyed) that carried the plant.

- Hedera helix* - English Ivy (23)
- Pennisetum setaceum* - fountain grass (21)
- Vinca major* - periwinkle (21)
- Aptenia cordifolia* - red apple (19)
- Helichrysum petiolare* - licorice plant (17)
- Ficus carica* - edible fig (16)
- Myoporum laetum* - myoporum (15)
- Cotoneaster* spp. - cotoneaster (13)
- Cytisus scoparius* - Scotch broom (12)
- Cortaderia selloana* - pampas grass (9)
- Foeniculum vulgare* - fennel (8)
- Mesembryanthemum crystallinum* - crystalline iceplant (7)
- Schinus terebinthifolius* - Brazilian peppertree (7)
- Robinia pseudoacacia* - black locust (6)
- Genista monspessulana* - French broom (5)
- Carpobrotus edulis* - iceplant, hottentot fig (4)
- Elaeagnus angustifolia* - Russian olive (3)
- Eucalyptus globulus* - blue gum (3)
- Cytisus striatus* - Portugese broom (2)
- Leucanthemum vulgare* - ox-eye daisy (2)
- Ricinus communis* - castor bean (2)
- Spartium junceum* - Spanish broom (2)
- Arctotheca calendula* - capeweed (1)
- Crataegus monogyna* - single-seed hawthorn (0)
- Delairea odorata* - cape ivy (0)