

Noxious Weed Program Annual Report

Plant Protection Division
Prepared March 2020

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Noxious Weed List

On January 17, 2020, the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) made numerous changes to the Noxious Weed List. A total of six new species were added to the list:

- Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) as Prohibited Eradicate
- Bohemian knotweed (*Polygonum x bohemicum*) as Prohibited Control
- Siberian peashrub (*Caragana arborescens*) (exemption for Green Spires® Caragana - Caragana 'Jefarb') as Restricted
- European alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) as Restricted
- Norway maple (*Acer platanoides* and all cultivars) as Specially Regulated
- Winged burning bush (*Euonymus alatus* and all cultivars) as Specially Regulated

Three species changed categories:

- Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*) and giant knotweed (*P. sachalinense*) were moved from Specially Regulated to Prohibited Control
- Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) from Restricted to Prohibited Eradicate

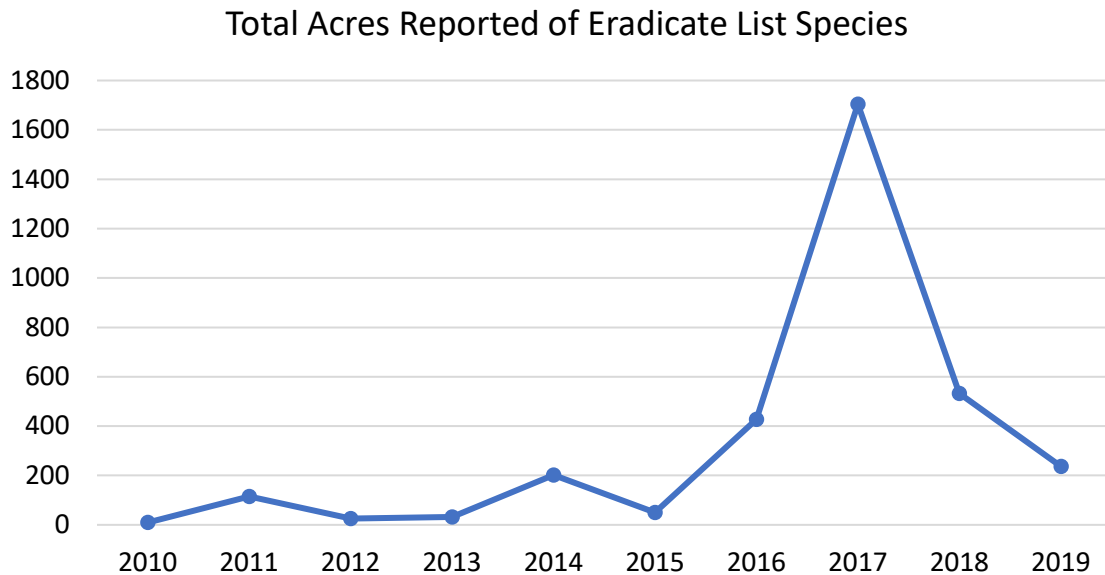
For legal descriptions of each category in the Noxious Weed List and descriptions of each species, please visit <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/minnesota-noxious-weed-list>.

New County Finds of Eradicate List Species

The MDA confirmed five species of Eradicate species for the first time in eight counties in 2019. The MDA verifies the reports and, when possible, collects samples for the official University of Minnesota herbarium records. The new finds were:

Species	County
Black swallow-wort (<i>Cyanichum louiseae</i>)	Washington
Cutleaf teasel (<i>Dipsacus laciniatus</i>)	Blue Earth
Oriental bittersweet (<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>)	Nicollet
Oriental bittersweet (<i>Celastrus orbiculatus</i>)	Rice
Palmer amaranth (<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>)	Houston
Palmer amaranth (<i>Amaranthus palmeri</i>)	Lincoln
Poison hemlock (<i>Conium maculatum</i>)	Clay
Poison hemlock (<i>Conium maculatum</i>)	Nobles
Poison hemlock (<i>Conium maculatum</i>)	Rice

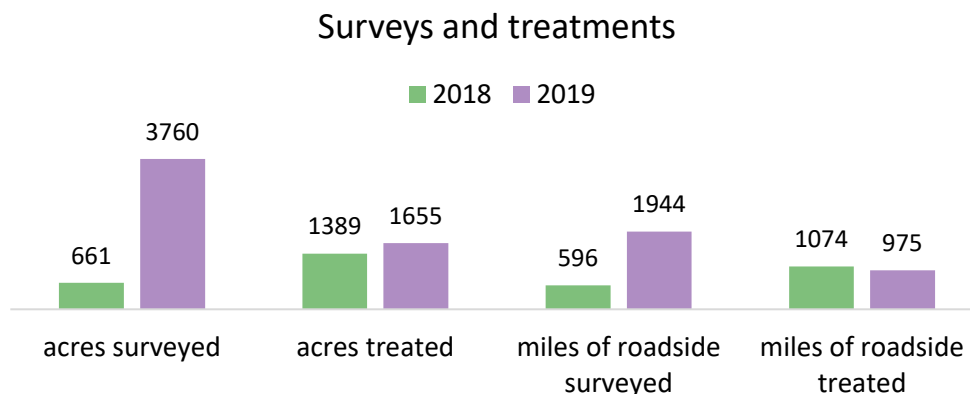
The MDA has used EDDMapS since 2010 to report infestations of eradicate species. There were 3,335 total acres of eradicate list species were reported from 2010-2019. In 2017, a large scale survey of oriental bittersweet in the Winona area resulted in 1,704 acres reported.



MDA Noxious Weed Grant Highlights

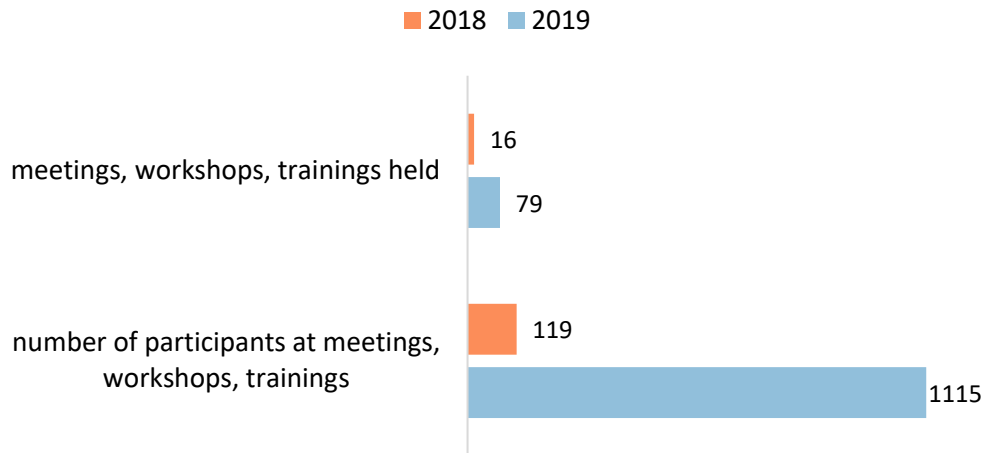
2018 was the first year the Minnesota Department of Agriculture received an appropriation to award grants for the Noxious Weed and Invasive Plant Grant fund. From the \$300,000 appropriated for fiscal year 2018 (FY18), 29 counties or municipalities received awards. From the \$300,000 appropriated for fiscal year 19 (FY19), 35 counties or municipalities received awards. The following graphs are based on the grants that have closed to date (93% of 2018 have closed; 66% of 2019 have closed).

As part of their grant closeout, grantees were asked to provide information about how many acres they surveyed, acres they treated, miles of roadsides surveyed, and miles of roadside treated using grant funds.

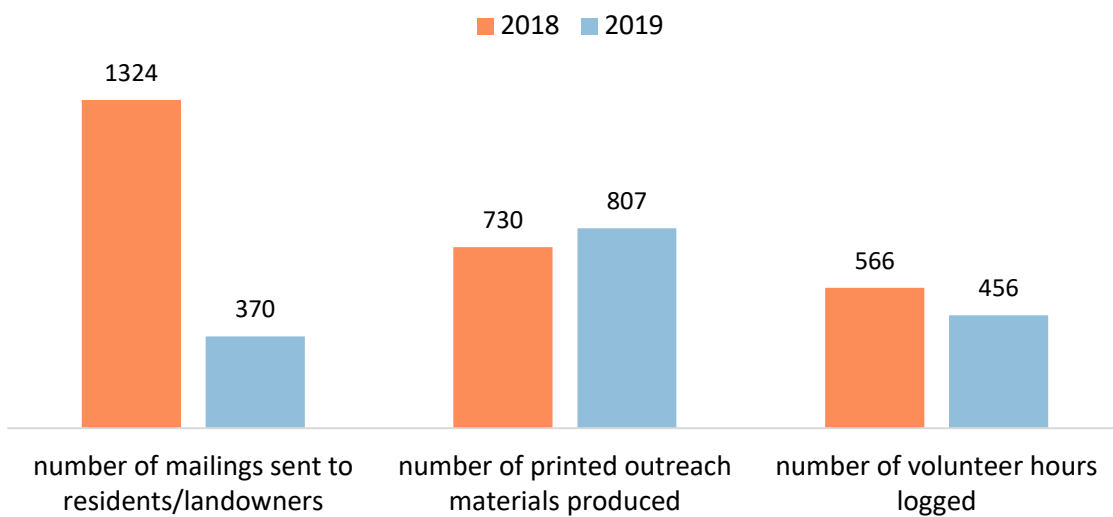


Outreach activities ranged from holding workshops or trainings, meetings, printing outreach materials, and sending mailings about noxious weeds to landowners and land managers.

Meetings, workshops and trainings



Printed materials and volunteer hours



Palmer Amaranth

Palmer amaranth was first confirmed in Minnesota in 2016. Since then, known infestations have been treated and monitored. Methods of treatment included propane torching, prescribed fire, hand pulling, and herbicide application. After monitoring sites multiple times per year, the known infestations of Palmer amaranth from 2016, 2017, and 2018 have not had plants growing in the field. If Palmer amaranth has not been found at a specific site in three consecutive years, survey work will not be conducted by the MDA. At that point, the field where Palmer amaranth was initially found is considered eradicated by MDA standards.

In 2019, Palmer amaranth was found in Lincoln County where contaminated millet was planted. The field was treated with herbicides and multiple surveys were conducted. No Palmer amaranth was found since the herbicide application. Palmer amaranth was also found in two unrelated sites in Houston County. Palmer amaranth was propane torched at one site and hand pulled at another. The sources are unknown, and surveys will be conducted in 2020.

	Number of infested acres	Number of acres monitored	Number of acres treated
2016	118	207	82
2017	270	548	392
2018	183	2,475	413
2019	42	2,517	43
Total	613	5,747	930

Elimination of Target Invasive Plant Species Summary

The Elimination of Target Invasive Plants (ETIPS) project had a busy and productive 2019. The MDA collaborated with agencies and private landowners to continue treatments on the following target species: black swallow-wort, Dalmatian toadflax, cutleaf and common teasels, Grecian foxglove, Japanese hops, brown and meadow knapweeds, poison hemlock, and Oriental bittersweet. The MDA's two regional weed specialists based out of Duluth and Rochester coordinated eradication efforts.

The ETIPS project is a formal partnership between the MDA, the University of Minnesota Extension, the Conservation Corps Minnesota, and St. Croix River Association, with the collaboration of numerous state and local entities and private landowners.

2019 Eradicate Species Treatments

ETIPS funding provided coordination for treatments of teasels, Japanese hops, Oriental bittersweet, and knapweeds. Between ETIPS funding and project partner funding, 6,880 acres of Eradicate list species were treated in 2019 (this figure includes multiple treatments at the same sites).

Species	Number of acres treated by ETIPS funds	Number of acres treated by other funds	Total acres treated
Black swallow-wort	1		1
Common and cutleaf teasel	292	455	747
Dalmatian toadflax		0.02	0.02
Grecian foxglove		427	427
Japanese hops	0.25	4,219	4,219
Oriental bittersweet	369	245	614
Poison hemlock		864	864
Diffuse, brown, and meadow knapweeds	8		8