

# Plants of Concern

## *Worst Invasive Plants in Santa Barbara County*

Whether intentionally or accidentally, a wide array of weedy plants have found their way into natural and designed landscapes. Both here in Santa Barbara and around the globe, weeds are a serious environmental problem due to their enormous negative impact on ecosystems. You can make a difference, by removing [undesirable weeds \(link to exotic species below\)](#) from your property and by not planting certain species of [ornamentals \(link to exotic ornamentals below\)](#) that are known to be invasive in some parts of our region. Please note that the following lists apply specifically to the Santa Barbara area; some of these species are not a problem elsewhere. The focus for list two is weeds most typically encountered in urban gardens, as opposed to weeds commonly found in agricultural or wildland situations, although there is overlap in several cases.

### Exotic Species to Eradicate if Found on Your Property

Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Acacia decurrens</i>	Green wattle
<i>Arundo donax</i>	Giant reed
<i>Asphodelus fistulosus</i>	Asphodel
<i>Ehrharta calycina</i>	Perennial veldtgrass
<i>Ehrharta erecta</i>	Panic veltgrass
<i>Ageratina adenophora</i> (= <i>Eupatorium adenophorum</i> )	Boneset
<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Sweet fennel
<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>	Tree tobacco
<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>	Kikuyu grass
<i>Phalaris aquatica</i>	Harding grass
<i>Piptatherum miliaceum</i> (= <i>Oryzopsis miliacea</i> )	Smilo, rice grass
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Castor bean ( <i>poisonous</i> )
<i>Tragopogon porofolius</i>	Salsify, oyster plant

## Exotic Ornamentals to Avoid Planting

Scientific Name	Common Name	Areas of Highest Impact
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot fig, iceplant	Especially near beaches or sandy areas
<i>Cortaderia jubata</i>	Pampas grass	Everywhere
<i>Cortaderia selloana</i>	Pampas grass	Everywhere
<i>Delairea odorata</i> (= <i>Senecio mikanioides</i> ) Everywhere		German ivy
<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> woodlands	Blue gum	Especially near moist canyons or oak
<i>Genista monspessulana</i> Everywhere	French or Mediterranean broom	
<i>Hedera canariensis</i> woodlands	Algerian ivy	Especially near moist canyons or oak
<i>Hedera helix</i> woodlands	English ivy	Especially near moist canyons or oak
<i>Limonium species</i>	Statice	Everywhere
<i>Myoporum laetum</i>	Myoporum	Especially near moist canyons
<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>	Fountain grass	Everywhere
<i>Pittosporum undulatum</i>	Pittosporum	Especially near moist canyons
<i>Platanus X acerifolia</i> hybridize with our native Western sycamore and contaminate the gene pool	London plane tree	Especially near moist canyons, where it can
<i>Schinus molle</i>	Peruvian pepper	Adjacent to natural landscapes
<i>Vinca major</i>	Periwinkle	Especially near moist canyons or oak woodlands