

**Pennsylvania Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed List Cultivar Assessment
Application**

To request the evaluation of cultivars for exemption to the Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Act (act of Oct. 30, 2017, P.L. 774, No. 46) please fill out the following application completely and accurately. Please attach additional documentation as needed. Once your application is received it will be reviewed by the PA Department of Agriculture. The applicant will be notified by email and postal letter on whether the submitted cultivar was accepted for exemption.

Please send completed form to:

Trilby Libhart
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Plant Industry
2301 North Cameron Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110
717-787-7204
tlibhart@pa.gov

Parent species: _____

Requested cultivar to be assessed: _____

Species: _____

Date of request: _____

Person(s) making the request:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization/Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please review the complete [list](#) of Federal Noxious Weeds. Is the cultivar's parent species listed on the Federal Noxious Weed List?

If yes, is the cultivar of interest listed as an exemption to the Federal Noxious Weed list?

If no, the request for PA state exemption cannot be made as commercial sale of the parent species and its cultivars is illegal anywhere in the U.S.

Please review the complete [list](#) of PA Controlled Plants and Noxious Weeds and confirm that the species is listed. If not on this list, the species is not currently a Noxious weed or Controlled plant species and a cultivar exemption is not necessary.

Please answer the following questions with as much detail as possible, including any contributing insight or references.

1. Approximately how long has this cultivar been in production and/or for sale in PA? If unknown for PA, approximately how long has this cultivar been in production and/or for sale in the United States?

Documentation:

Sources of information:

2. Is this cultivar recognizable as different from the species? Please describe how this cultivar can be discerned from other cultivars or the wild type. Include all appropriate references, photos, or any other information. (See below for acceptable references.)

Yes

No

Documentation:

Sources of information:

3. Please describe in as much detail as possible the traits of this cultivar that might result in it being less invasive than the listed species. Consider things like: Does the cultivar produce fewer seeds, or less viable or competitive seedlings? Is the cultivar's spread, abundance, or competitiveness somewhat reduced? Include appropriate references. (See below for acceptable references.)

Description of traits: _____

Documentation:

Sources of information:

4. Is this cultivar known to readily (or occasionally) revert or produce hybrids that revert to the wild type species characteristics? Include appropriate references. (See below for acceptable references.)

- Yes
 No

Documentation:

Sources of information:

5. Is it likely that the cultivar will disperse across gaps in space and successfully establish outside of cultivation by means of vegetative propagules¹?

- Yes
 No

Documentation:

Sources of information:

¹Vegetative propagules are plant tissues of asexual origin such as rhizomes, tubers, bulbils, turions, etc.

6. Does scientific evidence or other appropriate documentation prove that specimens of the cultivar are likely to either: A) asexually revert¹ to express the appearance and behavioral characteristics of the parent species, or B) produce offspring via sexual means that express the appearance and behavioral characteristics² of the parent species?

- Yes
- No
- Currently Unknown

Documentation:

Sources of information:

¹ For example, a variegated cultivar that reverts to produce green vegetative growth, a dwarf cultivar that reverts to produce growth with standard vigor or a sterile (i.e. – juvenile) cultivar that reverts to a fertile condition.

² For example, seedlings from a dwarf purple leaf cultivar that express characteristics of the parent species such as green foliage and standard vigor and/or full-size growth.

7. Does the cultivar fail to produce sexually reproductive tissues/structures, or has it been proven to be completely (i.e. – 100%) sterile¹? (So that it may not disperse viable sexual propagules – such as seeds, pollen, sperm, spores – into natural areas or engage in hybridization with native congeners or invasive exotic congeners.)

- Yes
- No
- Currently Unknown

Documentation:

Sources of information:

¹The duration of the evaluation period to determine cultivar sterility should a) extend to at least the time required for the parent species to reach sexual maturity, or b) longer than this period if the cultivar matures more slowly than the parent species for reasons such as dwarf growth habit or otherwise reduced vigor. Genetic conditions that prevent production of viable seeds (i.e. — sterility) include triploid (3N) chromosome complement and engineered genome modifications.

8. When demographic modeling analysis¹ is applied to the cultivar, do the results indicate that it is unlikely to establish expanding populations in natural and/or minimally managed areas?

- Yes
- No
- Currently Unknown

Documentation:

Sources of information:

¹Demographic modeling uses survival, growth and fecundity characteristics to predict population growth rates; rates equal to or less than 1 indicate stable or decreasing populations unlikely to become invasive. Requirements to achieve stable or decreasing growth rates typically vary with plant growth form. For short-lived species reductions in growth and/or fecundity are the most effective in reducing population growth rates (Ramula et al, 2008; Knight et al, 2011). For long-lived species (e.g. many woody species) reduced survival is very important. Simultaneous reductions in survival + growth, or in survival + fecundity are likely to be required in order to reduce population growth rates low enough to curb establishment and spread (Ramula et al. 2008). These requirements should be revisited as results from new research become available.

9. If insufficient data are available to apply formal demographic modeling analysis to this cultivar, does it possess characteristics that appear likely to result in significantly reduced abundance in natural/minimally managed areas compared with its parent species?

- Yes
- No
- Currently Unknown

Documentation:

Sources of information:

Acceptable References

- Appropriate references include books, journal articles, reputable websites (scientifically based websites such as university associated sites or botanical gardens), and testimonials from appropriate individuals. Appropriate individuals include curators or directors of gardens, plant breeders with experience with the plant, university or extension specialists, well-respected and well-known industry members.
- For testimonials, please obtain a written reference (emails and faxes are acceptable) that includes the individual's name, a description of their experience, and information regarding the area of the country (hardiness zone, climate, etc.) in which they are familiar with the cultivar in question.
- Documentation may include affidavits from botanic gardens or arboreta, first-hand accounts from recognized experts in the field and/or observations reported in peer-reviewed publications. Documentation should relate to USDA cold hardiness zones found in Pennsylvania.