Norway Maple
Photo Credit: *Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org*

Why is this information important to businesses that grow or sell bait, aquarium plants or fish, nursery or landscape plants, gamebirds or pet birds?

Some invasive species are introduced accidentally, but many enter New York in response to consumer demand for novel or exotic qualities or better performance like pest resistance or hardiness. Businesses that grow or sell these invasive species need to be aware of the new regulations and their responsibilities under them.

What are the Part 575 Invasive Species Regulations?

The regulations slow both the introduction of new and the spread of existing invasive species. The regulations list species classified as either prohibited or regulated, depending on the ecological risk they pose. The regulations also contain requirements for the sale, importation, purchase, transport and introduction of listed invasive species.

How can I get more information?

For more information about these regulations, a full list of prohibited and regulated species, and a list of alternatives, please visit:

www.dec.ny.gov/animals/99141.html

www.agriculture.ny.gov/PI/invasive_species.html

For questions or concerns, please contact:

NYS DEC, Invasive Species Coordination Unit
Phone: 518-402-9405
Email: isinfo@dec.ny.gov

OR

NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets, Division of Plant Industry
Phone: 518-457-2087
Email: plants@agriculture.ny.gov

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What you need to know about New York's Invasive Species Regulations

Photo Credit: *Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org*

If You Are A...

- **Bait Dealer?**
- **Aquarium Plant or Fish Dealer?**
- **Nursery and Landscape Grower or Dealer?**
- **Gamebird Breeder or Pet Bird Dealer?**

Photo Credit: *John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org*

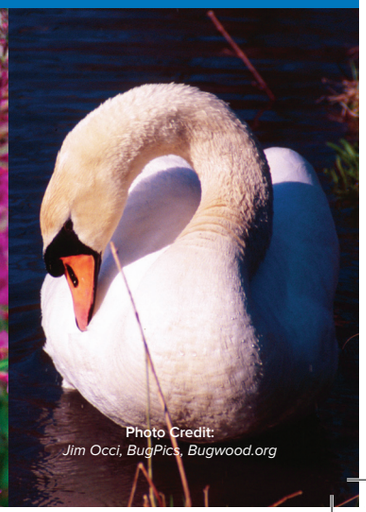


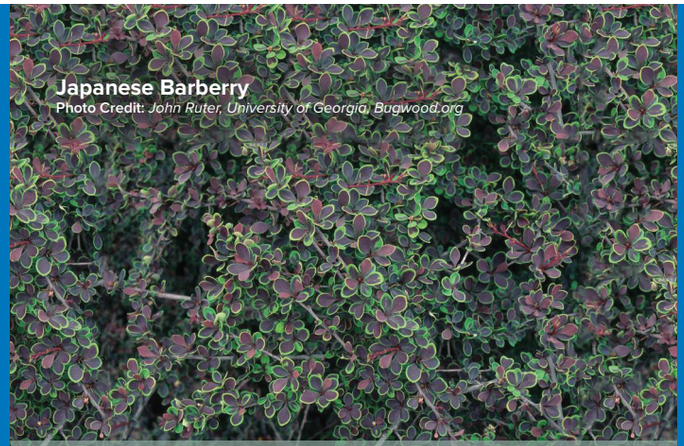
Photo Credit: *Jim Occi, BugPics, Bugwood.org*

Invasive species are a growing problem today. Introduced into non-native habitats, they often flourish at the expense of our native plants and animals, public health and the economy.

For example:

- Japanese barberry has escaped into forests, where it creates a dense understory that is attractive to deer ticks.
- Northern snakehead fish, released to lakes and ponds, can reduce native fish populations.
- Hydrilla, an aquatic plant, can damage aquatic ecosystems and interfere with recreation.

Northern Snakehead
Photo Credit: *Susan Trammell, Bugwood.org*



Japanese Barberry
Photo Credit: *John Ruter, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org*

What are invasive species and why are they a problem?

Invasive species are species that are nonnative to a particular ecosystem. Their introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health. Invasive species can reduce biological diversity and change ecosystems by out-competing native species. This not only harms natural communities, but negatively impacts industry, recreational opportunities, and natural resources.

Rusty Crayfish
Photo Credit: *U.S. Geological Survey Archive, U.S. Geological Survey, Bugwood.org*

What is the difference between prohibited and regulated?

- A **prohibited** species cannot be sold, imported, purchased, transported, introduced or propagated.
- A **regulated** invasive species cannot be knowingly introduced into a free-living state. This means it is legal to possess, sell, buy, propagate and transport regulated species as long as these activities are not likely to cause their spread into public lands, public waters or natural areas.

  Regulated invasive species offered for sale in New York State must be labeled with the words “Invasive Species - Harmful to the Environment” in at least 14-point bold font, attached in a conspicuous place on the container or on the species itself. Where it is impractical to display a label, written notice must be provided to the purchaser.

When do these regulations take effect?

The regulations, adopted on July 28, 2014 and published in the State Register on September 10, 2014, take effect March 10, 2015. Grace periods exist for Eurasian boar *(Sus scrofa)* until September 1, 2015 and for Japanese barberry *(Berberis thunbergii)* until March 9, 2016.