

Invasive Non-native Species (INNS) – Priority Species for Action in Wales

The purpose of this list is to help prioritise action on invasive non-native species (INNS) in Wales.

The list follows the [Convention on Biological Diversity \(CBD\)](#) three stage hierarchical approach for invasive non-native species (also enshrined in the GB Strategy) prioritising:

- a. Prevention; followed by,
- b. Early detection and rapid response; followed by,
- c. Long term strategic management.

The list takes into account the risk posed by a species (assessment score) and whether or not an effective, strategic and sustainable management is possible based following the CBD hierarchy. These priorities have been informed by horizon scanning, risk analysis (comprising both risk assessment and risk management) and consultation with the [WBP INNS Group](#), [GB NNSS](#), NRW and Welsh Government.

Species are listed as:

1. Prevention priority species - Not in Wales, but likely to arrive. If detected a rapid response would be needed.
2. Management priority species - Present or recently present in the wild in Wales in low numbers or limited isolated populations. To prevent widespread establishment of species eradication is required / feasible / desirable.
3. Long-term management priority species - Species established in Wales where long term management is feasible and beneficial (e.g. protecting key areas, containment, control or mitigation).

Species include:

- GB priorities already agreed by the [GB Programme Board](#) for Non-native Species.
- [Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern](#).
- Species that are a national priority for Wales, but not covered by the previous points.

Sightings of species on this list are to be reported in accordance with GB Non-native Species Secretariat [guidance](#).

The list is a working document and will be reviewed annually. **This document includes terrestrial and freshwater species.**

Priority Marine Invasive Non-native Species: A list for marine species has been developed using a similar prioritisation process that also considered marine based legislation, e.g. Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). The [Marine INNS: Priority Monitoring and Surveillance List for Wales](#) ranks species into High, Medium and Low Risk categories, it includes details such as the potential impacts of each species and suggests suitable management actions.

1. PREVENTION PRIORITY SPECIES

Not present in the wild in Wales, but likely to arrive. If detected a rapid response would be needed.

If you think you've seen one of the species listed in Table 1, you can check using the [Identification sheets](#) on the [GB Non-native Species Secretariat website](#). For 'Alert Species', sightings should be reported immediately with a photo to alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk.

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	England presence	Justification for selection
Xenopus laevis	African clawed toad	Amphibian	Freshwater	Absent (eradicated)	GB eradication priority. Alert Species .
Lithobates catesbeianus	American bullfrog	Amphibian	Freshwater	Absent (eradicated)	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . GB eradication priority. Alert Species . DAISIE top 100. RISC Species .
Vespa velutina	Asian hornet	Insect		Absent (eradicated)	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . Alert Species . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10. RISC Species .
Ameiurus melas	Black bullhead	Fish	Freshwater	Absent (eradicated)	GB eradication priority
Myriophyllum heterophyllum	Broadleaf watermilfoil	Plant	Freshwater	Present (being eradicated)	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . GB eradication priority. Alert Species . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10.
Orconectes limosus	Eastern Crayfish/Spinycheek crayfish	Invertebrate	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	England presence	Justification for selection
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Fanwort or Carolina water shield	Plant	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern
<i>Lasius neglectus</i>	Invasive garden ant	Insect	Terrestrial	Present	GB eradication priority. Alert Species .
<i>Myiopsitta monachus</i>	Monk parakeet	Bird		Present (being eradicated)	GB eradication priority. Alert Species . UK management plan in draft.
<i>Sarracenia purpurea</i>	Pitcher plant	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales
<i>Dreissena bugensis</i>	Quagga mussel	Mollusc	Freshwater	Present	National priority for Wales. Alert Species . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10. RISC Species .
<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>	Red swamp crayfish	Invertebrate	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . DAISIE top 100.
<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	Sacred Ibis	Bird		Absent	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . Alert Species . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10. DAISIE top 100.
<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>	Saltbush/Tree Groundsel	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . Alert Species . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 20.
<i>Tamias sibiricus</i>	Siberian chipmunk	Mammal	Terrestrial	Absent	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . Alert Species . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 30. DAISIE top 100.
<i>Orconectes virilis</i>	Virile crayfish	Invertebrate	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern

2. MANAGEMENT PRIORITY SPECIES

Present or recently present in the wild in Wales in low numbers or limited isolated populations. To prevent widespread establishment of species eradication is required / feasible / desirable.

If you think you've seen one of the species listed in Table 2, you can check using the [Identification sheets](#) on the [GB Non-native Species Secretariat website](#). For 'Alert Species', sightings should be reported immediately to alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk.

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	England presence	Justification for selection
Zamenis longissimus	Aesculapian snake	Reptile	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales
Ichthyosaura alpestris	Alpine newt	Amphibian	Freshwater	Present	National priority for Wales
Corbicula fluminea	Asian clam	Mollusc	Freshwater	Present	National priority for Wales. Alert Species . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 20. DAISIE top 100.
Hydrocotyle ranunculoides	Floating pennywort	Plant	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . RISC Species . UK management plan in draft.
Carpobrotus edulis	Hottentot-Fig	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales. DAISIE top 100.
Acaena novae-zelandiae	Pirri-pirri bur	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales
Disphyma crassifolium	Purple dewplant	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	England presence	Justification for selection
<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	Ruddy duck	Bird		Present (being eradicated)	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . GB eradication priority. DAISIE top 100. UK management plan in draft.
<i>Cervus nippon</i>	Sika deer	Mammal	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales. DAISIE top 100.
<i>Pseudorasbora parva</i>	Topmouth gudgeon	Fish	Freshwater	Present (being eradicated)	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . GB eradication priority. Alert Species . DAISIE top 100.
<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i>	Water primrose	Plant	Freshwater	Present (being eradicated)	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . GB eradication priority. Alert species . RISC Species .

3. LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT PRIORITY SPECIES

Species established in the wild in Wales where long term management is feasible and beneficial (e.g. protecting key areas, containment, control or mitigation).

If you think you've seen one of the species listed in Table 3, you can check using the [Identification sheets](#) on the [GB Non-native Species Secretariat website](#). For 'Alert Species', sightings should be reported immediately to alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk.

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	England presence	Justification
Neovision vison	American mink	Mammal	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales. DAISIE top 100.
Prunus laurocerasus	Cherry Laurel	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales – site-specific only
Cotoneaster spp.	Cotoneaster	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales – site-specific only
Lagarosiphon major	Curly waterweed	Plant	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . UK management plan in draft.
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant hogweed	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . DAISIE top 100.
Sciurus carolinensis	Grey squirrel	Mammal	Terrestrial	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . UK management plan in draft.
Impatiens glandulifera	Himalayan balsam	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . DAISIE top 100. RISC Species .
Fallopia japonica	Japanese knotweed	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales. DAISIE top 100.

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	England presence	Justification
<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	Japanese rose	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales – site-specific only. DAISIE top 100.
<i>Dikeroqammarus villosus</i> / <i>Dikeroqammarus haemobaphes</i>	Killer shrimp / Demon shrimp	Crustacean	Freshwater	Present	National priority for Wales. Alert Species . DAISIE top 100. RISC Species .
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	New Zealand Pigmyweed	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales. DAISIE top 100.
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i> / <i>brasilense</i>	Parrot's feather	Plant	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . UK management plan in draft.
<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> (& hybrids)	Rhododendron	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales– site-specific only. DAISIE top 100. RISC Species .
<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	Reeves's muntjac	Mammal	Terrestrial	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . RISC Species . UK management plan in draft.
<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>	Sea buckthorn	Plant	Terrestrial	Present	National priority for Wales
<i>Pacifastacus leniusculus</i>	Signal crayfish	Crustacean	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . RISC Species . UK management plan in draft.
<i>Lysichiton americanus</i>	Skunk cabbage	Plant	Freshwater	Present	Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern . RISC Species . UK management plan in draft.
<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	Water fern	Plant	Freshwater	Present	National priority for Wales. RISC Species .

NOTIFIABLE PESTS AND DISEASES

There are a number of invasive non-native species which are classified as notifiable pests or diseases in the UK. Other legislative mechanisms exist to deal with these.

Animal Health

If you suspect a notifiable animal disease you must report it immediately by calling the Defra Rural Services Helpline on 03000 200 301. Failure to do so is an offence.

Aquatic (fish) health pests and disease

Any suspicion or report of a notifiable fish disease in the wild must be reported to CEFAS Fish Health Inspectorate email fhi@cefas.co.uk, telephone 01305 206700 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm). More information: UK Government Report serious fish or shellfish diseases webpage (applies to England and Wales).

Bee Health

There are a number of notifiable pests and diseases in the UK which may affect bees. Beekeepers must tell the National Bee Unit (NBU) if they suspect they are present by calling the National Bee Unit Helpline on 0300 303 0094 or your local bee inspector immediately. Failure to do so is an offence. More information from the National Bee Unit: BeeBase webpage and the [Welsh Beekeepers Association](#).

Plant Health

To report suspicion of a quarantine (notifiable) or non-quarantine (non-notifiable) plant pest or disease, or for advice and guidance on plant health regulations call the Animal and Plant Health Agency Plant Health and Seeds Inspectorate Plant Health Helpline on 01904 405 138 or email planthealth.info@apha.gsi.gov.uk.

Tree Health

There is a legal duty to report certain pests and diseases under the Plant Health (Forestry) Order 2005. Tree species and tree pests and diseases can be identified and should be reported with a photo via [TreeAlert](#). If you are in any doubt as to whether you should report your concerns, please contact the [NRW tree health team](#). Find more information on NRW's [Tree Health in Wales](#) webpage.