

# 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](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk).

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	Justification for selection
<a href="#"><i>Xenopus laevis</i></a>	African clawed toad	Amphibian	Freshwater	GB eradication priority. <b>Alert Species</b> .
<a href="#"><i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i></a>	American bullfrog	Amphibian	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . GB eradication priority. <b>Alert Species</b> . <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100. <a href="#">RISC Species</a> .
<a href="#"><i>Vespa velutina</i></a>	Asian hornet	Insect		<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <b>Alert Species</b> . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10. <a href="#">RISC Species</a> .
<a href="#"><i>Ameiurus melas</i></a>	Black bullhead	Fish	Freshwater	GB eradication priority
<a href="#"><i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i></a>	Broadleaf watermilfoil	Plant	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . GB eradication priority. <b>Alert Species</b> . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10.
<a href="#"><i>Orconectes limosus</i></a>	Eastern Crayfish/Spinycheek crayfish	Invertebrate	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a>
<a href="#"><i>Cabomba caroliniana</i></a>	Fanwort or Carolina water shield	Plant	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a>
<a href="#"><i>Lasius neglectus</i></a>	Invasive garden ant	Insect	Terrestrial	GB eradication priority. <b>Alert Species</b> .
<a href="#"><i>Myiopsitta monachus</i></a>	Monk parakeet	Bird		GB eradication priority. <b>Alert Species</b> . UK management plan in draft.

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	Justification for selection
<a href="#"><i>Sarracenia purpurea</i></a>	Pitcher plant	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales
<a href="#"><i>Dreissena bugensis</i></a>	Quagga mussel	Mollusc	Freshwater	National priority for Wales. <a href="#">Alert Species</a> . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10. <a href="#">RISC Species</a> .
<a href="#"><i>Procambarus clarkii</i></a>	Red swamp crayfish	Invertebrate	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#"><i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i></a>	Sacred Ibis	Bird		<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <a href="#">Alert Species</a> . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 10. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#"><i>Baccharis halimifolia</i></a>	Saltbush/Tree Groundsel	Plant	Terrestrial	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <a href="#">Alert Species</a> . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 20.
<a href="#"><i>Tamias sibiricus</i></a>	Siberian chipmunk	Mammal	Terrestrial	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <a href="#">Alert Species</a> . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 30. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#"><i>Orconectes virilis</i></a>	Virile crayfish	Invertebrate	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a>

## 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](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk).

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	Justification for selection
<a href="#">Zamenis longissimus</a>	Aesculapian snake	Reptile	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales
<a href="#">Ichthyosaura alpestris</a>	Alpine newt	Amphibian	Freshwater	National priority for Wales
<a href="#">Corbicula fluminea</a>	Asian clam	Mollusc	Freshwater	National priority for Wales. <a href="#">Alert Species</a> . NNSIP horizon scanning workshop top 20. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#">Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</a>	Floating pennywort	Plant	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <a href="#">RISC Species</a> . UK management plan in draft.
<a href="#">Carpobrotus edulis</a>	Hottentot-Fig	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#">Acaena novae-zelandiae</a>	Pirri-pirri bur	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales
<a href="#">Disphyma crassifolium</a>	Purple dewplant	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales
<a href="#">Oxyura jamaicensis</a>	Ruddy duck	Bird		<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . GB eradication priority. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100. UK management plan in draft.

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	Justification for selection
<a href="#"><i>Cervus nippon</i></a>	Sika deer	Mammal	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#"><i>Pseudorasbora parva</i></a>	Topmouth gudgeon	Fish	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . GB eradication priority. <a href="#">Alert Species</a> . <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#"><i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i></a>	Water primrose	Plant	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . GB eradication priority. <a href="#">Alert species</a> . <a href="#">RISC Species</a> .

### 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](mailto:alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk).

Scientific name	Common name	Group	Habitat	Justification
<a href="#">Neovision vison</a>	American mink	Mammal	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#">Prunus laurocerasus</a>	Cherry Laurel	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales Species inclusion under consideration
<a href="#">Cotoneaster spp.</a>	Cotoneaster	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales Species inclusion under consideration
<a href="#">Lagarosiphon major</a>	Curly waterweed	Plant	Freshwater	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . UK management plan in draft.
<a href="#">Heracleum mantegazzianum</a>	Giant hogweed	Plant	Terrestrial	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#">Sciurus carolinensis</a>	Grey squirrel	Mammal	Terrestrial	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . UK management plan in draft.
<a href="#">Impatiens glandulifera</a>	Himalayan balsam	Plant	Terrestrial	<a href="#">Invasive Alien Species of Union Concern</a> . <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100. <a href="#">RISC Species</a> .
<a href="#">Fallopia japonica</a>	Japanese knotweed	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.
<a href="#">Rosa rugosa</a>	Japanese rose	Plant	Terrestrial	National priority for Wales. <a href="#">DAISIE</a> top 100.

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

## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.