

Species Dataform and Scoresheet for *Camellia japonica* L. (Camellia)

Species Dataform and Scoresheet		
<i>Camellia japonica</i> L. (Camellia)		
Native range: China and Japan		
Date evaluated: March 9, 2009		
	Answer Choices	Response
Introductory Questions		
1. Current federal and state regulations	Y/N	N
Comments:		
2. Occurrence in the horticultural trade	Y/N	Y
Comments: Frequently cultivated and popular ornamental plant.		
3. North Carolina nativity	Y/N	N
Comments: Native to China and Japan (Weakley 2008).		
4. Presence in natural areas	Y/N	N
Comments: Sometimes persistent around old home sites (Weakley 2008).		
5. Non-invasive cultivars	Y/N	Y
Comments: Assessment indicates that <i>C. japonica</i> is noninvasive in North Carolina.		
	Maximum Point Value	Number of Points Assigned
Section 1. Ecological Impact		
1a. Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	10	0
Comments: No known abiotic ecosystem impacts.		
1b. Impact on plant community structure	20	5
Comments: Successful understory plants in deciduous forests (Reiley, 2001). <i>Camellia japonica</i> is slow-growing, but in grouped plantings, they create an effective screen (Gilman, 1999).		
1c. Impact on species of special concern	5	0
Comments: No known impact on species of special concern or threatened or endangered plants.		
1d. Impact on higher trophic levels	5	0
Comments: No known impact on higher trophic levels.		
Section 1. Subrank	40	5
Section 2. Current Distribution and Potential for Expansion		
2a. Local range expansion	7	0
Comments: No known expansion into natural areas.		
2b. Long-distance dispersal potential	13	0
Comments: This species is not dispersed naturally long distances.		
2c. Reproductive characteristics	8	2
Comments: Fruits are dry and hard, not fleshy (Gilman 1999). Propagation is by seed or cuttings (Gilman 1999).		
2d. Range of communities	6	0

Comments: May be planted nearly throughout North Carolina (Gilman 1999).		
2e. Similar habitats invaded elsewhere	6	0
Comments: Sensitivity to frost and freezing restricts the range of Camellia species to the Southeast and the Pacific Coast (Reiley 2001).		
Section 2. Subrank	40	2
Section 3. Management Difficulty		
3a. Herbicidal control	5	0
Comments: Herbicides will damage <i>C. japonica</i> , especially if applied to the leaves (Reiley 2001)		
3b. Nonchemical control methods	2	0
Comments: Digging around Camellia species will damage shallow root systems (Reiley 2001)		
3c. Necessity of individual treatments	2	2
Comments: Large shrubs or small trees (Reiley 2001) would require individual treatments.		
3d. Average distribution	2	0
Comments:		
3e. Likelihood for reestablishment	2	0
Comments:		
3f. Accessibility of invaded areas	2	0
Comments: Not know to invade natural areas.		
3g. Impact on native species and environment	5	0
Comments:		
Section 3. Subrank	20	2
Section 4. Benefits and Value		
4a. Estimated wholesale value	-7	-7
Comments: The estimated wholesale value of Camellia species to the North Carolina nursery industry is > \$40 million (Trueblood 2009).		
4b. Percentage of total sales	-5	-3
Comments: Among producers that sell Camellia species, the highest percentage of total sales attributed to this species from any one grower in the state is estimated to be 11-25% (Trueblood 2009).		
4d. Ecosystem services	-1	0
Comments:		
4e. Wildlife habitat	-1	0
Comments:		
4f. Cultural and social benefits	-1	0
Comments:		
Section 4. Subrank	-15	-10
Overall Score	100	-1
Overall Recommendation: Noninvasive and recommended for use – These species have limited ecological impact, distribution and invasive potential, and management difficulty in relation to economic value. They may be locally problematic but their reproductive biology		

and other traits limit their rate of invasion to natural areas.

(Overall Score: 0 – 33)

Summary: *Camellia japonica* (Camellia) is noninvasive in North Carolina and may be recommended for horticultural use by the North Carolina Nursery and Landscape Association. Camellia species are not known to invade natural areas in North Carolina. They have little to no negative ecosystem impacts, low potential for long-distance dispersal, and may be easily removed from the landscape. Camellia species have extremely high economic value for the nursery industry in North Carolina.

References:

Gilman, E.F. (1999) *Camellia japonica* Fact Sheet FPS-97. Environmental Horticulture Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Science, University of Florida. (<http://hort.ufl.edu/shrubs/CAMJAPA.PDF>) Accessed: March 9, 2009.

Reiley, H. E. (2001) *Azaleas, Camellias, and Rhododendrons*. Des Moines, IA: The Scotts Company.

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Weakley, A.S. "Flora of the Carolinas, Virginia, Georgia, northern Florida, and surrounding areas." University of North Carolina. Working draft. 7 April 2008.

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