Exotic Trees in the United States:
Naturalized or Escaped from Cultivation

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Trees species brought into an area where they did not ecologically develop or where they are not considered "native," are exotic trees. Many exotic trees are grown for food, ornamental, aesthetic, or other specialized uses. Sometimes these exotic trees escape cultivation and start to survive, grow, and reproduce on their own.

Self-replicating exotics can pose a threat to local ecological systems by replacing species and modifying the interconnections between species and site processes. In some cases, exotic species are considered to be an ecological asset, while in other situations, exotics trees are considered pests.   This species list was prepared to assist foresters and restoration ecologists in recognizing exotic tree species by name. An asterisk following the common name signifies a tropical species.

Note that not all of these species are as interference prone (**i.e.** interference = competition + allelopathy) or as ecologically damaging as others. No priority is implied or given about the "pest potential" of any species. In each case, the tree species listed has reproduced in their new locations and could interfere with native systems or other exotic species already present. This is not an exhaustive list nor does it include large shrubs or bamboo.

scientific name	common name	scientific name	common name
Acer platanoides	Norway maple	Citrus aurantifolia	lime*
Acer pseudoplatanus	planetree maple	Citrus aurantium	sour orange*
Ailanthus altissima	tree-of-heaven	Citrus sinensis	orange*
Albizia julibrissin	silktree	Cocos nucifera	coconut*
Albizia lebbeck	lebbek*	Cordia sebestena	Geiger-tree*
Aleurites fordii	tung-oil tree	Crataegus monogyna	one-seed hawthorn
Alnus glutinosa	European alder	Crataegus oxyacantha	English hawthorn
Annona squamosa	sugar-apple*	Crescentia cujete	calabash-tree*
Ardisia solanacea	shoebutton ardisia*		
		Delonix regia	royal poinciana*
Broussonetia papyrifera	paper-mulberry	Duranta repens	golden-dewdrop*
Caesalpinia gilliesii	paradise caesalpinia*	Elaeagnus angustifolia	Russian-olive
Caesalpinia pulcherrima	flowerfence*	Eucalyptus camaldulensis	longbeak eucalyptus (redgum)*
Callitris hugelii	blue cypress-pine*		
Carica papaya	papaya*	Eucalyptus globulus	bluegum*
Casuarina equisetifolia	casuarina*	Eucalyptus polyanthemos	redbox gum*
Casuarina cristata	scalybark casuarina*	Eucalyptus tereticornis	horncap eucalyptus*
Cinnamomum camnhora	camphor-tree	Eugenia uniflora	Surinam-cherry*

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Ficus carica	fig	Prunus domestica	garden plum
Firmiana simplex	Chinese parasoltree	Prunus mahaleb	mahaleb cherry
Flacourtia indica	governors-plum*	Prunus padus	European bird-cherry
		Prunus persica	peach
Hibiscus tiliaceus	sea hibiscus*	Prunus spinosa	sloe
		Psidium guajava	guava*
Lagerstroemia indica	crapemyrtle	Pyrus communis	pear
Larix decidua	European larch		
Leucaena leucocephala	leucaena*	Quercus robur	English oak
Ligustrum japonicum	Japanese privet		
Ligustrum ovalifolium	California privet	Rhamnus cathartica	European buckthorn
Ligustrum sinense	Chinese privet	Rhamnus frangula	glossy buckthorn
		Rhodomyrtus tomentosa	downy-myrtle*
Malus baccata	Siberian crabapple	Ricinus communis	castorbean*
Malus prunifolia	Chinese apple		
Malus sylvestris	apple	Salix alba	white willow
Mangifera indica	mango*	Salix babylonica	weeping willow
Manilkara zapota	sapodilla*	Salix fragilis	crack willow
Melaleuca quinquenervia	cajeput-tree*	Salix viminalis	basket willow
Melia azedarach	chinaberry	Sapium sebiferum	tallowtree
Melicoccus bijugatus	Spanish-lime*	Schinus longifolia	longleaf pepper-tree*
Moringa oleifera	horseradish-tree*	Schinus molle	peppertree*
Morus alba	white mulberry	Schinus terebinthifolia	Brazil peppertree*
Morus nigra	black mulberry	Sesbabia grandiflora	agati*
Muntingia calabura	Jamaica-cherry*	Sesbabia punicea	purple rattlebox
		Sorbus aucuparia	European mountain-ash
Nerium oleander	oleander		
Nicotiana glauca	tree tobacco*	Spondias purpurea	purple mombin*
Opuntia brasiliensis	Brazil pricklypear*	Tamarindus indica	tamarind*
Opuntia ficus-indica	Indian-fig*	Tamarix chinensis	tamarisk
		Tamarix gallica	French tamarisk
Paulownia tomentosa	paulownia	Tamarix parviflora	small-flower tamarisk
Persea americana	avocado*	Terminalia catappa	India-almond*
Picea abies	Norway spruce	Thespesia populnea	portiatree*
Pinus nigra	Austrian pine	Thuja orientalis	oriental arborvitae
Pinus sylvestris	Scott's pine (Scotch pine)	Ulmus pumila	Siberian elm
Poncirus trifoliata	trifoliate orange		
Populus alba	white poplar	Vitex agnus-castus	chastetree
Populus X canadensis	Carolina poplar		
Populus X canescens	gray poplar	Ziziphus jujuba	jujube
Populus nigra (italica)	black poplar (Lombardy)		
Pouteria campechiana	canistel*		
Pouteria dominigensis	Dominican pouteria*		
Prunus avium	mazzard		
Prunus cerasus	sourcherry		

* = tropical (primarily south Florida, Caribbean basin, south Texas, south California, and Hawaii.)