PRISM: Long Island Invasive Species Management Area

**Scientific name:** Euphorbia lathyris

**USDA Plants Code:** EULA4

**Common names:** Caper Spurge; moleplant

**Native Distribution:** Probably originally native to the eastern and central Mediterranean

**Date Assessed:** March 12, 2009

**PRISM Assessors:** Steve Glenn, Gerry Moore

**PRISM Reviewers:** LIISMA SRC

**Date Approved:** 1 Apr. 2009

**New York Relative Maximum score:** 56.98

**New York State Invasive Rank:** Moderate

**SUMMARY OF PRISM RANKING RESULTS:**

**Distribution:** Restricted

**Estimated number of infested sites:** 2

**PRISM Invasiveness Rank:** Moderate

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**A. DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE (KNOWN/POTENTIAL):**

1. What is the species distribution and abundance in the PRISM?

   **A.** Not present  
   **B.** Occurs in three or fewer natural areas (locations that are at least ¼ mile apart) with no infested area* >1 acre or containing >100 individuals  
   **C.** Present in 4–10 natural areas, or with one occupied location >1 acre or containing >100 individuals  
   **D.** Present in >10 minimally managed areas  
   **U.** Unknown

   **Answer:** Restricted

**Describe distribution:**

Documented from 2 sites on Long Island and Staten Island since 1980.

**Sources of information:**

Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

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2. What is the likelihood the species will occur (if not yet present) or expand its distribution and abundance (if already present) in the PRISM?

**Answer:** Very likely

Documentation (e.g.: history of establishment in PRISM, suitability of habitats and climate, distribution models, literature, expert opinions):
- Already present in LIISMA; available habitat present.
- Sources of information:

**B. INVASIVENESS RANK IN THE PRISM:**

Is the species distribution Widespread or Common?
- Yes: Go to column A in table below.
- No: What is the likelihood of species occurrence or expansion? Answer: Very likely

- Very Likely: Use column A below
- Moderately likely: Use column B below
- Unlikely: Use column C below
- Zero likelihood: Invasive potential Insignificant
- Unknown: Invasive potential Unknown
- Not assessed: Invasive potential not assessed

Assign a PRISM invasiveness rank to the species based on its New York Relative Maximum Score, using the designated column in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New York Relative Maximum Score</th>
<th>New York Invasiveness Rank</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 80.00</td>
<td>Very High</td>
<td>VH</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70.00–80.00</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>H</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50.00–69.99</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Ins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40.00–49.99</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Ins</td>
<td>Ins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;40.00</td>
<td>Insignificant</td>
<td>Ins</td>
<td>Ins</td>
<td>Ins</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Column used:** A (Insert PRISM Invasiveness Rank on page 1)

**References for species assessment:**
Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2009.

**Citation:** This ranking form for regions within NYS may be cited as: Jordan, M.J., G. Moore and T.W. Weldy. 2008. Invasiveness ranking system for non-native plants of New York. Unpublished. The Nature Conservancy, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Brooklyn Botanic Garden, Brooklyn, NY; The Nature Conservancy, Albany, NY. Note that the order of authorship is alphabetical; all three authors contributed substantially to the development of this protocol.

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