

Invasive Species Updates and the Indiana Invasives Initiative (III)



Will Drews
SICIM Chair



Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management

Indiana Invasive Species Updates

- Upcoming threats
 - Mile a Minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliata*)
 - Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*)
 - Sudden Oak Death (*Phytophthora ramorum*)
- Indiana Invasive Plant List updated
- TPR updates



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Mile a Minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliata*)

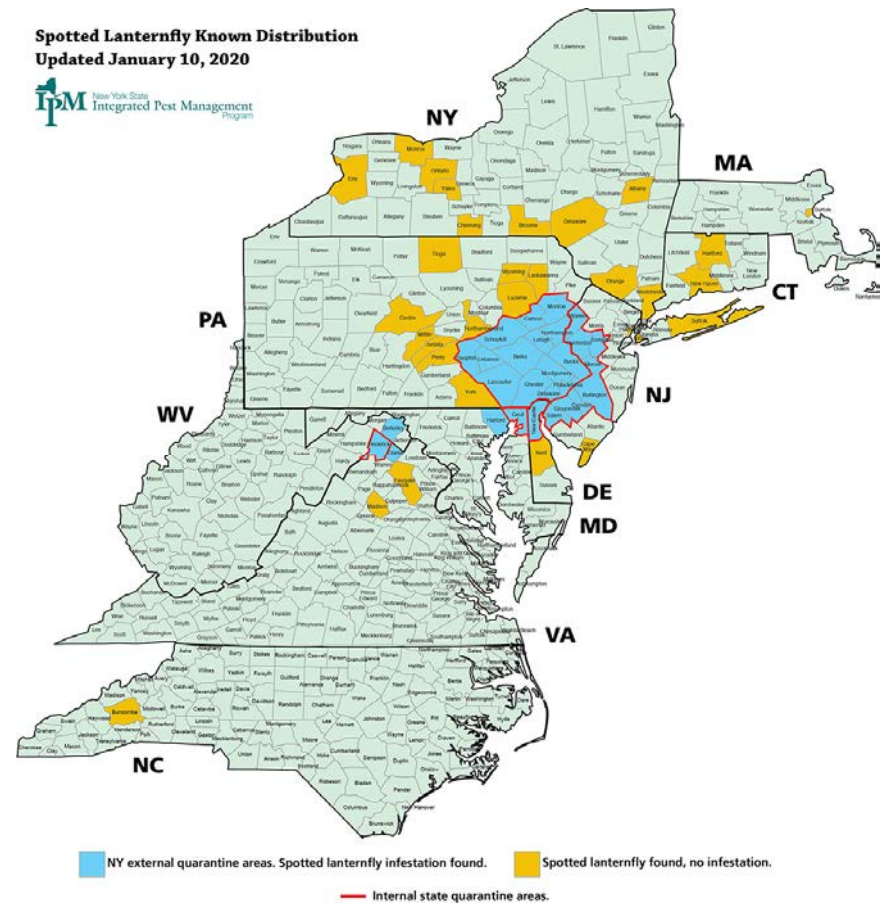
- Herbaceous, annual vine
- Found in Monroe County in late 2018
- Treated by landowner and private contractor
- Known for growing incredibly fast (“a mile a minute”)
 - Actually up to ~6 in./day
- Threat to upland forests



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Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*)

- Planthopper
- First reported in PA in 2014
- Not found in IN yet
- Generalist tendencies
- Threat to horticultural crops and forests



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Sudden Oak Death (*Phytophthora ramorum*)

- Fungal pathogen
- First reported in CA in mid 1990s
- Found last year in IN
 - Infected rhododendron nursery stock
- Spreads via alternative hosts and soil and water
- Browning of leaves occur suddenly, but takes ~2 years to kill a mature tree
- Threat to oak trees/forests



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Indiana Invasive Plant List Updated

- The Invasive Plant Advisory Committee (IPAC) has been working for the past couple years to update the official Indiana Invasive Plant List.
- First list approved by IISC on 10/11/13
- Finished some reassessments and new assessments at the end of 2019
- Voted on and passed at an Indiana Invasive Species Council (IISC) meeting earlier this year
- **Does not** affect Terrestrial Plant Rule (TPR)



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IPAC - Ranking Invasive Plants

- Plants are ranked using a standardized form and scientific evidence.
- Two different forms
 - Plants in trade and not
- Different rankings
 - High, Medium, Low, and Caution
- IPAC members assess plants and have assessments double-checked by experts.



High



Medium



Low



Caution

Updated Invasive Plant Species

- Chinese Wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*) – moved up to medium
- European Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum opulus*) – moved up to high
- Moneywort (*Lysimachia nummularia*) – newly assessed as high
- Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*) – moved up to high
- Ravenna Grass (*Saccharum ravennae*) – newly assessed as medium
- Spreading/Japanese Hedge Parsley (*Torilis arvensis/T. japonica*) – moved up to high
- Wild Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) – moved up to high
- Chinese Silvergrass (*Miscanthus sinensis*) – moved up to high
- Japanese Spirea (*Spiraea japonica*) – moved up to medium
- Sweet Autumn Clematis (*Clematis terniflora*) – moved up to high
- Lesser Celandine (*Ficaria verna*) – newly assessed as high
- Mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*) – newly assessed as medium
- Beefsteak Plant (*Perilla frutescens*) – newly assessed as medium
- Princess Tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*) – moved up to medium
- Jet Bead (*Rhodotypos scandens*) – moved up to medium



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Terrestrial Plant Rule



- IISC asked DNR to remove the invasive plants rated “high” in 2013
- DNR Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology drafted rule in mid 2014
- TPR was passed on April 18, 2019 (prohibits 44 of the 46 invasive plants rated high starting in April 18, 2020)
- Will start to be enforced on April 20, 2020
- Callery Pear and Norway Maple left off the list
- IPAC working on a field guide for species on the list



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Indiana Invasives Initiative (III)



- SICIM is a regional nonprofit organization based in Southern Indiana to address the threat of invasive plants.
- Entered into a NRCS Contribution Agreement in 2017
- Expanded the of scope of SICIM to the entire state of IN
- This program is what is referred to as the Indiana Invasives Initiative (III)
- Hired two regional specialists and a program coordinator in 2018
- Now up to 5 regional specialists and a program coordinator



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III Outline

- The NRCS contribution agreement is for 5 years.
- The project is supported by NRCS, SICIM, TNC, and various other grants, donations, and contributions.
- Regional Specialists work with SWCDs and other conservation organizations to
 - increase Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (or CISMA) representation across the state
 - help counties find the resources they need to manage invasives in their areas.
- Not just Southern Indiana, for the whole state
- The project also aims to provide technical assistance to landowners, including invasive species property surveys and management plans.



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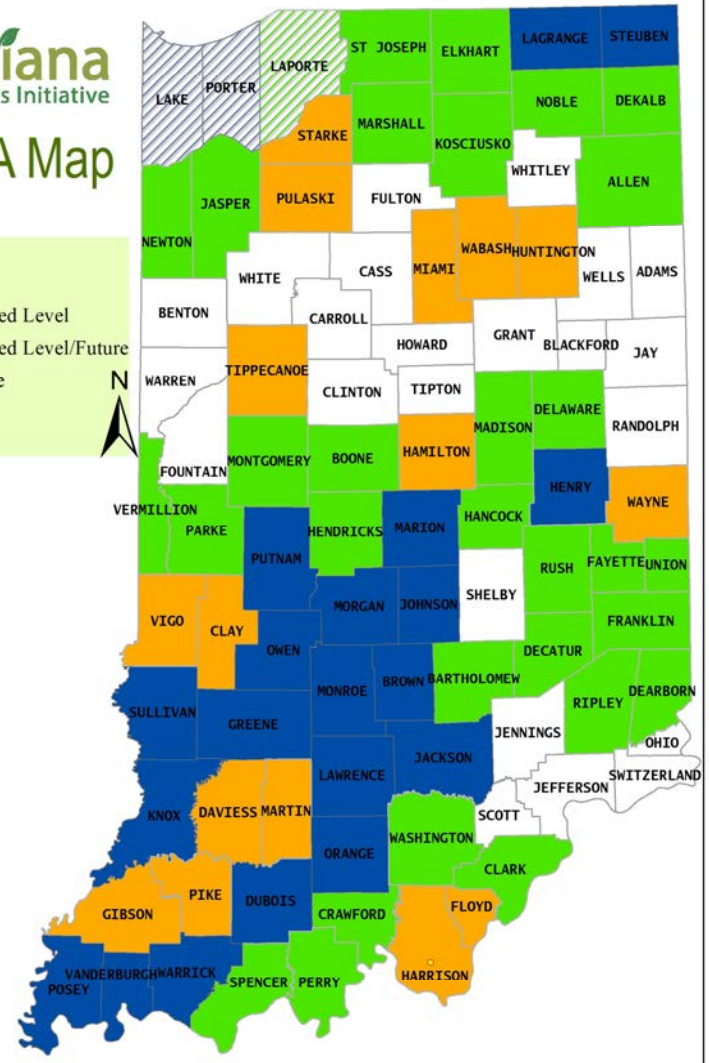
Regional Specialist Map



- Legend**
- ★ RS and Project Coordinator Locations
- SICIM Regional Specialists and Project Coordinator**
- Amber Slaughterbeck, Amber@sicim.info
 - Dawn Slack, dawn.slack@tnc.org
 - Erica Luchik, Erica@sicim.info
 - Kaila Knies, Kaila@sicim.info
 - Liz Yetter, Liz@sicim.info
 - Mary Hallinan, Mary@sicim.info
 - Unassigned



- Legend**
- CISMA Status**
- Active @ Watershed Level
 - Active @ Watershed Level/Future
 - Formed and Active
 - Future
 - Organizing



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III Program Coordinator



DAWN SLACK

With The Nature Conservancy



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SICIM Regional Specialists

AMBER SLAUGHTERBECK

*Serving West Central
Indiana*



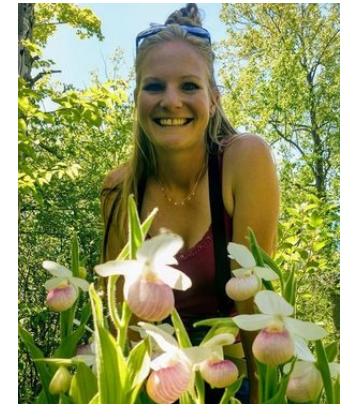
KAILA KNIES

*Serving South
Central Indiana*



ERICA LUCHIK

*Serving
Northwest
Indiana*



MARY WELZ

Serving Central Indiana



LIZ YETTER

*Serving
East Central
Indiana*



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III Highlights

- Statistics so far:
 - 125+ landowner surveys
 - 4,200+ acres assessed
 - 430+ outreach events
 - 51,000+ people engaged
- Indiana CISMAs by numbers:
 - Working in 69 counties
 - 21 established CISMAs in 23 counties
 - 11 organizing CISMAs in 15 counties



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Spring 2020 CISMA Conference

INVASIVE SPECIES AND WATERSHEDS



THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH, 2020 - 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

Hamilton County, Indiana 4-H Fairgrounds and Conference Center

2003 Pleasant St, Noblesville, IN 46060



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Weed Wrangle® Indiana

- Fun, interactive events to get people out removing invasive plants from parks and natural areas
- Weed Wrangle Indiana Events:
 - 2018: 17
 - 2019: 38
 - 2020: 40+
- Spring 2020 Weed Wrangle Indiana Contest
 - Designed to increase participation in Weed Wrangles
 - Points distributed for promoting and holding events
 - Points relate to entries into doorprize
 - Winning group gets \$500 for invasive species management and 4 hours of hands-on assistance from one of the RSs
 - Winner announced at SICIM's Annual Meeting on June 25th



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The ILL's goal is to create local invasive species action.



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Questions?

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For more info about SICIM, check out our website & Facebook pages:

- Website: <http://www.sicim.info/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sicim35/>



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