

Spring into action against invasive alien plants

Remove and destroy these September-flowering Category 1 plants.



Oleander (*Nerium oleander*)

Category 1 – remove and destroy

Multistemmed, evergreen shrub-tree which grows to 6 m high. It produces pink, red or white flowers which appear from September to March. All parts of this plant are highly toxic and human fatalities are known. Oleanders with frilly double-flowering blooms are exempt from invasive legislation as they are deemed to be sterile.



Tree daisy (*Montanoa hibiscifolia*)

Category 1 – remove and destroy

A large perennial shrub sometimes reaching 6 m high. The leaves are palmately lobed and the bright white flowers appear in terminal branches from May to October. The tree daisy comes from Central America and was planted as an ornamental, but it invades forest, riverbanks and roadsides.

What can you do to prevent the spread of invasive species?

Learn to identify invader species and inform other gardeners to become eco-friendly and remove invasive alien plants from their gardens.

For more information, visit www.invasives.org.za



Lantana (*Lantana camara*)

Category 1 – remove and destroy

Lantana is highly invasive throughout the coast and along water courses further inland. It is a messy, scrambling shrub with recurved thorns growing along the stems and branches. Clusters of small pink, red, crimson, orange, yellow or white flowers appear from September to April, sometimes all-year round. The fruits are glossy green turning purplish-black. The whole plant is poisonous.



Spear or Scotch thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*)

Category 1 – remove and destroy

A widespread weed in gardens, the spear thistle grows to 1,5 m high and has sharp, thorny-like leaves with stiff hairs above. The pink flowers appear from September to April and form on top of a spiny bract. The seeds appear as fluffy, featherlike threads which are dispersed by the wind.

