



## **Invasive Non-Native Plants and B&Q: Buying Standards**

**August 2010**

**socialresponsibility**  
Community | Diversity | Ethical | Environment

B&Q plc, Portswood House, 1 Hampshire Corporate Park, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO53 3YX Tel:  
+44 (0) 23 8025 6256, Fax: +44 (0) 23 8025 7480 , e-mail: [packaging.enquires@b-and-q.co.uk](mailto:packaging.enquires@b-and-q.co.uk) website:  
[www.diy.com/socialresponsibility](http://www.diy.com/socialresponsibility)

## Invasive Non-Native Plants and B&Q

### Introduction

Introducing and using plants from abroad has, since Roman times, enhanced and added to our enjoyment and use of our gardens. However, some of those plants have proven to be extremely harmful and invasive as they take over natural habitats, out-compete native plants and block up ponds and rivers. Invasive plants are considered the second greatest threat to native plants after habitat destruction<sup>1</sup>. It is also likely that the problems caused by invasive non-native species will increase as the effects of climate change increase.

### B&Q position

At B&Q we take our environmental and ethical responsibilities very seriously and as the UK's biggest Home Improvement Retailer we have an added responsibility to ensure the products we stock and sell do not damage our native flora and fauna.

Below is a list of species that we do not and will not stock in any of our UK or Republic of Ireland stores. We maintain and update this list on an annual basis and in doing so work with and seek the advice of the RHS and Plantlife and reference the appropriate legislation in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland.

### List of Plant Species B&Q does not stock:

Latin Name	Common Name
<b>AQUATICS</b>	
<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	Water Fern
<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>	Fanwort
<i>Codium fragile</i>	Green Seafingers
<i>Crassula helmsii</i>	New Zealand Pygmy Weed
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Water Hyacinth
<i>Elodea (inc canadensis, nuttallii, densa)</i>	Pondweed
<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	Floating Pennywort
<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>	Curly Waterweed
<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Parrot's Feather
<i>Pistia stratioides</i>	Water Lettuce
<i>Salvinia molesta</i>	Giant Salvinia
<b>TERRESTIAL</b>	
<i>Allium paradoxum</i>	Few-flowered Leek
<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Hottentot Fig
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed
<i>Gaultheria shallon</i>	Shallon
<i>Gunnera tinctoria</i>	Giant Rhubarb
<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	Giant Hogweed
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	Spanish Bluebell
<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica x H non-scripta</i>	Hybrid Bluebell
<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Himalayan Balsam
<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	False Acacia
<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	Rhododendron

In addition to the non-native species above we will also avoid *Nymphaea alba* (white water lily) and *Typha latifolia* (bulrush). Although these are native species, they can quickly

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<sup>1</sup> European strategy on invasive alien species (2003).

outgrow small garden ponds and disrupt both the benefits and the pleasure that a pond can bring to a garden.

Natural Bulbs

B&Q will not buy bulbs extracted from the wild. Bulb ranges must carry the message 'Bulbs Grown from Cultivated Stock'.

### **Additional Sources of Information (web links)**

Plant life

<http://www.plantlife.org.uk/uk/plantlife-campaigning-change-invasive-plants.html>

RHS Online

[http://www.rhs.org.uk/Learning/research/Conservation\\_and\\_environment\\_nonnative.asp](http://www.rhs.org.uk/Learning/research/Conservation_and_environment_nonnative.asp)

Wildlife Trusts

<http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/index.php?section=environment:water:pondpests>