

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

### New Restrictions on a Number of Animals and Plants

Dear Sir/Madam,

New restrictions on a number of plants and animals were introduced across all European Union Member States, including Malta.

The EU Regulations on Invasive Alien Species **prohibit the importation, keeping, breeding, transport, sale, use, exchange or cultivation** of the plants and animals listed in Tables 1 and 2 attached. As of August 2019, additional species have been listed in these tables. These are clearly marked with an asterisk (\*) in these tables. Images and information on the newly added species are also included as a separate leaflet to this letter.

Although the mentioned Regulations prohibit the sale and exchange of all of the listed species, shop owners may continue to:

- i) Sell mynas (birds) and pumpkinseeds (fish) or striped catfish (fish), as pets **until the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020**;
- ii) Sell or transfer the species marked in bold in Table 1 and 2 **only** for specific permitted activities (including research purposes, *ex situ* conservation or medicinal activities) **until the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2021**.

Such sale or transfer by shop owners however, is only allowed for specimens obtained **prior** to the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2019 and provided that such specimens are kept and transported in a manner that prevents breeding or escape.

It is worth reminding that there are certain trees that are harmful to our natural environment. It is prohibited to sow, plant, import, transport, sell, exchange and donate these trees in accordance to the Trees and Woodlands Protection Regulations (S.L. 549.123). A list of these trees is found in Table 3 included in this letter. The list of restrictions and the list of prohibited species is continually being updated. If you wish to remain informed of these restrictions and these lists, please fill in the web-form which can be accessed from the **era.org.mt**. You are kindly requested to follow these regulations to protect our local environment and biodiversity.

For further information on invasive alien species, you may also visit the Authority's webpage at <https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Invasive-Alien-Species.aspx>

If you require any further clarifications or information, you can contact our officers through email on [info@era.org.mt](mailto:info@era.org.mt) or call us on 2292 3500.



Perit Michelle Piccinino  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Environment & Resources Authority

## Restrizzjonijiet Ġodda fuq Numru ta' Annimali u Pjanti

Għażiż/a Sinjur/a,

L-Unjoni Ewropea (UE) dahlet restrizzjonijiet ġodda fuq numru ta' pjanti u annimali. Ir-Regolamenti tal-UE fuq Speċi Aljeni Invażivi **jipprojbixxu l-importazzjoni, iż-żamma, it-trobbija, it-trasport, il-bejgħ, l-użu, it-tpartit u l-kultivazzjoni** tal-pjanti u l-annimali mniżżla fit-Tabelli 1 u 2 meħmużin ma' din l-ittra. Minn Awwissu 2019, numru ta' speċi oħra ġew miżjuda f'dawn it-tabelli. Dawn huma mmarkati bi stilla (\*) fit-tabelli. Meħmuża ma' din l-ittra għandek issib ukoll fuljett separat fejn hemm ritratti u informazzjoni fuq dawn l-ispeċi li għadhom kemm ġew miżjuda.

Għalkemm ir-Regolamenti msemmija jipprojbixxu l-bejgħ u t-tpartit ta' dawn l-ispeċi kollha mniżżlin, is-sidien tal-ħwienet jistgħu jkomplu:

- i) Ibiegħu il-*Myna* (għasfur) u il-*Pumpkinseed* (ħut) jew *Striped Catfish* (ħut) bħala annimali domestiċi **sal-15 t'Awwissu 2020**;
- ii) Ibiegħu jew jittrasferixxu l-ispeċi mniżżlin b'tipa **bold** fit-Tabelli 1 u 2 **meta mibjugħa biss** għal attivitajiet speċifiċi (li jinkludu riċerki, konservazzjoni *ex situ* jew attivitajiet relatati ma' medicina) **sal-15 t'Awwissu 2021**.

Madanakollu, tali bejgħ jew transferiment mis-sidien tal-ħwienet huwa permess biss għal dawk l-ispeċi li nkisbu **gabel** il-15 t'Awwissu 2019 u sakemm jinżammu u jingarru b'mod li ma jitgħammrux, ma jinxterdux u ma jaħarbux mill-kontenitur tagħhom.

Minbarra dawn, hemm ċerti siġar li jagħmlu ħsara irreparabbli lill-ambjent naturali tagħna. Lista ta' dawn is-siġar tinsab fit-Tabella 3 iktar 'l isfel f'din l-ittra. Skont ir-Regolamenti dwar il-Ħarsien tas-Siġar u l-Imsaġar (S.L. 549.123), huwa pprojbit li tiżra', tħawwel, timporta, tittrasporta, tbiegħ, tpartat jew tagħti dawn is-siġar.

Il-lista tar-restrizzjonijiet u speċi pprojbiti qed jiġu aġġornati kontinwament. Jekk tixtieq tibqa' tiġi aġġornat fuq dawn ir-restrizzjonijiet u dawn il-listi, jekk jogħġbok imla l-formola li tinsab f'din il-ħolqa: **era.org.mt**. Inti ġentilment mitlub issegwi dawn ir-regolamenti biex tiproteġi l-ambjent u l-bijodiversità lokali tagħna.

Għal aktar informazzjoni dwar speċi aljeni invażivi, tista' żżur ukoll il-paġna tal-Awtorità fuq <https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Invasive-Alien-Species.aspx>

Jekk teħtieġ aktar taġrif jew informazzjoni, tista' tikkuntattja lill-uffiċjali tagħna permezz ta' email fuq [info@era.org.mt](mailto:info@era.org.mt) jew iċċemplilna fuq 2292 3500.



Perit Michelle Piccinino  
Aġent Kap Eżekuttiv  
Awtorità għall-Ambjent u r-Riżorsi

**Table 1: List of prohibited invasive alien plants (of Union concern):**

**Tabella 1: Lista ta' pjanti aljeni invażivi projbiti (applikabli għall-Unjoni Ewropea):**

English Name (Isem bl-Ingliż)	Scientific Name (Isem Xjentifiku)
*Golden-wreath wattle	* <i>Acacia saligna</i> [=Acacia cyanophylla]
*Tree-of-heaven	* <i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
Alligator weed	<i>Alternanthera philoxeroides</i>
<b>*Broomsedge bluestem</b>	<b>*<i>Andropogon virginicus</i></b>
Common milkweed	<i>Asclepias syriaca</i>
Eastern baccharis	<i>Baccharis halimifolia</i>
Fanwort	<i>Cabomba caroliniana</i>
<b>*Balloon vine</b>	<b>*<i>Cardiospermum grandiflorum</i></b>
<b>*Purple pampas grass</b>	<b>*<i>Cortaderia jubata</i></b>
Water hyacinth	<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>
<b>*Perennial veldt grass</b>	<b>*<i>Ehrharta calycina</i></b>
Nuttall's waterweed	<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>
Chilean rhubarb	<i>Gunnera tinctoria</i>
<b>*Senegal tea plant</b>	<b>*<i>Gymnocoronis spilanthoides</i></b>
Giant hogweed	<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>
Persian hogweed	<i>Heracleum persicum</i>
Sosnowsky's hogweed	<i>Heracleum sosnowskyi</i>
<b>*Japanese hop</b>	<b>*<i>Humulus scandens</i></b>
Floating pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>
Indian balsam	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>
Curly waterweed	<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>
<b>*Chinese bushclover</b>	<b>*<i>Lespedeza cuneate</i> [<i>Lespedeza juncea</i> var. <i>sericea</i>]</b>
Water-primrose	<i>Ludwigia grandiflora</i>
Floating primrose-willow	<i>Ludwigia peploides</i>
<b>*Vine-like fern</b>	<b>*<i>Lygodium japonicum</i></b>
American skunk cabbage	<i>Lysichiton americanus</i>
Japanese stiltgrass	<i>Microstegium vimineum</i>
Parrot's feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>
Broadleaf watermilfoil	<i>Myriophyllum heterophyllum</i>
Whitetop weed	<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>
Crimson fountaingrass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum</i>
Asiatic tearthumb	<i>Persicaria perfoliata</i>
<b>*Mesquite</b>	<b>*<i>Prosopis juliflora</i></b>
Kudzu vine	<i>Pueraria lobata</i>
<b>*Salvinia moss</b>	<b>*<i>Salvinia molesta</i> [<i>Salvinia adnate</i>]</b>
<b>*Chinese tallow</b>	<b>*<i>Triadica sebifera</i> [<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>]</b>

**Table 2: List of prohibited invasive alien animals (of Union concern):**

**Tabella 2: Lista ta' animali aljeni invażivi projbiti (applikabli għall-Unjoni Ewropea):**

English Name (Isem bl-Ingliż)	Scientific Name (Isem Xjentifiku)
<b>*Common myna (B)</b>	<b>*<i>Acridotheres tristis</i></b>
Egyptian goose (B)	<i>Alopochen aegyptiacus</i>
<b>*New Zealand flatworm (In)</b>	<b>*<i>Arthurdendyus triangulatus</i></b>
Pallas's squirrel (M)	<i>Callosciurus erythraeus</i>
Indian house crow (B)	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
Chinese mitten crab (In)	<i>Eriocheir sinensis</i>
Small Asian mongoose (M)	<i>Herpestes javanicus</i>
<b>*Pumpkinseed (F)</b>	<b>*<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i></b>
American bullfrog (A)	<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>
Muntjac deer (M)	<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>
Coypu (M)	<i>Myocastor coypus</i>
Coati (M)	<i>Nasua nasua</i>
<sup>1</sup> Raccoon dog (M)	<i>Nyctereutes procyonoides</i>
Muskrat (M)	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>
Spiny-cheek crayfish (In)	<i>Orconectes limosus</i>
Virile crayfish (In)	<i>Orconectes virilis</i>
Ruddy duck (B)	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>
Signal crayfish (In)	<i>Pacifastacus leniusculus</i>
Amur sleeper (F)	<i>Percottus glenii</i>
<b>*Striped eel catfish (F)</b>	<b>*<i>Plotosus lineatus</i></b>
Red swamp crayfish (In)	<i>Procambarus clarkii</i>
Marbled crayfish (In)	<i>Procambarus fallax f. virginalis</i>
Raccoon (M)	<i>Procyon lotor</i>
Stone moroko (F)	<i>Pseudorasbora parva</i>
Grey squirrel (M)	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
Fox squirrel (M)	<i>Sciurus niger</i>
Siberian chipmunk (M)	<i>Tamias sibiricus</i>
Sacred ibis (B)	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Red-eared; yellow-bellied Cumberland sliders (terrapins) (R)	& <i>Trachemys scripta</i>
Asian hornet (In)	<i>Vespa velutina nigrithorax</i>

Mammals (M); Birds (B); Reptiles (R); Amphibians (A); Fish (F); Invertebrates (In)

<sup>1</sup> Inclusion of Raccoon dog applies as of 2 February 2019. Specimens could be sold as pets by 2 February 2020 or sold/transferred to the research or ex-situ conservation facilities by 2 February 2021.

**Table 3: Invasive, alien or environmentally-incompatible trees (Second Schedule of S.L. 549.123)**

Tabella 3: Siġar invażivi, aljeni jew li huma inkompatibbli mal-ambjent tal-madwar (it-Tieni Skeda tal-L.S. 549.123).

**No person shall propagate, sow, plant, import, export, transport, sell, exchange or donate any specimen of species.**

L-ebda persuna m'għandha tnissel, tizra, tħawwel, timporta, tesporta, tittrasporta, tbiegħ, tpartat jew tagħti donazzjoni ta' kwalunkwe eżemplari.

English Name (Isem bil-Ingliż)	Maltese Name (Isem bil-Malti)	Scientific Name (Isem Xjentifiku)
Coastal wattle	l-akaċja tal-għajn	<i>Acacia cyclops</i>
Golden wreath wattle	l-akaċja	<i>Acacia saligna</i> [=Acacia cyanophylla]
Tree-of-heaven	ix-xumakk	<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>
Australian pine tree	Il-każwarina	<i>Casuarina</i> spp.
Red gum	l-ewkaliptus	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> [=Eucalyptus rostrata]
Tuart	l-ewkaliptus	<i>Eucalyptus gomphocephala</i>
Lead tree	l-albizzja	<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i> [=Acacia leucocephala; Albizzia lebbek]
Tree tobacco	It-tabakk tas-swar	<i>Nicotiana glauca</i>
Shrubby putterlick	Il-pittosporum	<i>Pittosporum tobira</i>
Castor oil tree	Ir-rigñu	<i>Ricinus communis</i>
Brazilian pepper	Is-siġra tal-bżar	<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>
Karoo thorn	Il-gažżija tax-xewk	<i>Vachellia karroo</i> [= Acacia karroo; Acacia horrida]