TIPPC Plant Assessment Form

For use with "Criteria for Categorizing Invasive Non-Native Plants that Threaten Wildlands"
by the California Invasive Plant Council and the Southwest Vegetation Management Association

Version February 2003, modified July 2009 for the Texas Invasive Plant & Pest Council – www.texasinvasives.org

Table 1. Species and Evaluator Information

Species name (Latin binomial)**:**	Firmiana simplex
Synonyms:	Firmiana platanifolia (L. f.) Schott & Endl., Sterculia platanifolia L.
Common names:	Chinese parasoltree
Evaluation date (mm/dd/yy)**:**	07/05/2011
Evaluator #1 Name/Title:	Travis Gallo/Ecologist
Affiliation:	The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
Phone numbers:	512-232-0116
Email address:	tgallo@wildflower.org
Address:	4801 La Crosse Ave., Austin, Texas 78704
Evaluator #2 Name/Title:	enter text here
Affiliation:	enter text here
Phone numbers:	enter text here
Email address:	enter text here
Address:	enter text here

Section below for list committee use—please leave blank

List committee members:	enter text here
Committee review date:	enter text here
List date:	enter text here
Re-evaluation date(s):	enter text here

General comments on this assessment:
Originally assessed for the City of Austin Invasive Management Plan

Due to very little information about the invasiveness of Chinese Parasol Tree this assessment is done largely on observations by the evaluator, and should be evaluated a second time by a resource manager on the ground dealing with the control of Chinese Parasol Tree.

Table 2. Criteria, Section, and Overall Scores

Species: enter text here

Region: enter text here

1.1	Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes	**A**	**Observational**
1.2	Impact on plant community	**B**	**Observational**
1.3	Impact on higher trophic levels	**U**	**No Information**
1.4	Impact on genetic integrity	**D**	**Other Pub. Mat'l**

Impact

Enter four characters from Q1.1-1.4 below:

ABUD

Using matrix, determine score and enter below:

B

2.1	Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance	**A**	**Observational**
2.2	Local rate of spread with no management	**B**	**Observational**
2.3	Recent trend in total area infested within state	**B**	**Observational**
2.4	Innate reproductive potential Wksht A	**B**	**Other Pub. Mat'l**
2.5	Potential for human-caused dispersal	**A**	**Other Pub. Mat'l**
2.6	Potential for natural long-distance dispersal	**A**	**Other Pub. Mat'l**
2.7	Other regions invaded	**U**	**No Information**

Invasiveness

Enter the sum total of all points for Q2.1-2.7 below:

15

Use matrix to determine score and enter below:

B

3.1	Ecological amplitude/Range	**A**	**Other Pub. Mat'l**
3.2	Distribution/Peak frequency Wksht C	**A**	**Other Pub. Mat'l**

Distribution

Using matrix, determine score and enter below:

A

Plant Score

Using matrix, determine Overall Score and Alert Status from the three section scores and enter below:

Moderate

No Alert

Documentation

Average of all questions

2.00

Table 3. Documentation (List all references at end of PAF. Short citations may be used in Table 3.)

Impacts
Question 1.1 Impact on abiotic ecosystem processes A Observational back
Identify ecosystem processes impacted: Creates a large canopy depleting light to understory plants. Understory below parasol canopy is usually absent of native vegetation.
Sources of information: enter text here Observation: Gallo, T.
Question 1.2 Impact on plant community composition, structure, and interactions B Observational back
Identify type of impact or alteration: Does not dominate the plant community, but does reduce populations by shading out understory plants.
Sources of information: enter text here Observation: Gallo, T.
Question 1.3 Impact on higher trophic levels U No Information back
Identify type of impact or alteration:
Sources of information: enter text here
Question 1.4 Impact on genetic integrity D Other Pub. Mat'l back
Identify impacts: enter text here No related species.
Sources of information: enter text here Waitt, D. 2011. Native Plant Information Network. Accessed 6 July 2011: http://wildflower.org/plants/
Invasiveness
Question 2.1 Role of anthropogenic and natural disturbance in establishment A Observational back
Describe role of disturbance: enter text here Can invade undisturbed forested areas.
Sources of information: enter text here Observation: T. Gallo
Question 2.2 Local rate of spread with no management B Observational back
Describe rate of spread: no information Increasing but less rapidly.
Sources of information: enter text here Observation: T. Gallo
Question 2.3 Recent trend in total area infested within state B Observational back
Describe trend: no information Increasing but less rapidly.

Sources of information: enter text here

Observation: T. Gallo

Question 2.4 Innate reproductive potential B Other Pub. Mat'l back

Describe key reproductive characteristics:

Refer to Worksheet A.

Sources of information:

Henderson State University. 2011. Chinese Parasol Tree. Accessed 11 July 2011: http://www.hsu.edu/interior2.aspx?id=8584.

Question 2.5 Potential for human-caused dispersal A Other Pub. Mat'l back

Identify dispersal mechanisms: enter text here

Still commonly sold, promoted and traded in Texas.

Sources of information: enter text here

Houston Chronicle. 2008. 10 Fast Growing Trees Worth Considering. Accessed 11 July 2011: http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/gardening/top10/5060122.html.

Observation: T. Gallo

Question 2.6 Potential for natural long-distance dispersal A Other Pub. Mat'l back

Identify dispersal mechanisms: enter text here

Seeds can be dispersed long distances by the wind.

Sources of information: enter text here

Question 2.7 Other regions invaded U No Information back

Identify other regions: enter text here

Sources of information: enter text here

Distribution

Question 3.1 Ecological amplitude/Range A Other Pub. Mat'l back

Describe ecological amplitude, identifying date of source information and approximate date of introduction to the state, if known: enter text here

Refer to Worksheet B. Very little information on distribution.

Sources of information: enter text here

Invaders of Texas Citizen Science Observations (Accessed 11 July 2011: http://texasinvasives.org/observations/search.php?satellite=&sn=FISI2&cn=

USDA PLANTS Database (Accessed 11 July 2011: http://plants.usda.gov/java/county?state_name=Texas&statefips=48&symbol= FISI2)

Question 3.2 Distribution/Peak frequency A Other Pub. Mat'l back

Describe distribution: enter text here

Refer to Worksheet B. Very little information on distribution.

Sources of information: enter text here

Invaders of Texas Citizen Science Observations (Accessed 11 July 2011: http://texasinvasives.org/observations/search.php?satellite=&sn=FISI2&cn=

USDA PLANTS Database (Accessed 11 July 2011: http://plants.usda.gov/java/county?state_name=Texas&statefips=48&symbol= FISI2)

References

List full citations for all references used in the PAF (short citations such as DiTomaso and Healy 2007 may be used in table above). **Websites** should include the name of the organization and the date accessed. **Personal communications** should include the affiliation of the person providing the observation. Enter each reference on a separate line; the table will expand as needed.

Examples:

Mitich, L. W. 1995. Intriguing world of weeds: Tansy ragwort. Weed Technology. 9: 402-404.

HEAR. Date unknown. Emex spinosa. Hawaiian Ecosystems at Risk. www.hear.org/pier/species/emex_spinosa.htm. Accessed March 17, 2009

DiTomaso, J. M. Personal communication from Dr. Joe DiTomaso, Dept. of Plant Science, UC Davis. Email received 3/17/09.

enter text here

Worksheet A

Reaches reproductive maturity in 2 years or less	**1**
Dense infestations produce >1,000 viable seed per square meter	**2**
Populations of this species produce seeds every year.	**1**
Seed production sustained over 3 or more months within a population annually	**0**
Seeds remain viable in soil for three or more years	**Unknown**
Viable seed produced with *both* self-pollination and cross-pollination	**1**
Has quickly spreading vegetative structures (rhizomes, roots, etc.) that may root at nodes	**0**
Fragments easily and fragments can become established elsewhere	**0**
Resprouts readily when cut, grazed, or burned	**0**
5 0	
B	

Note any related traits: enter text here

Notes for Worksheet B - Texas Ecoregions

Question 3.1

Ecological amplitude

Refer to the worksheet and select the one letter below that indicates the number of different ecological types that this species invades in your state.

A. Widespread—the species invades at least three Level III ecoregions **or** at least 22 Level IV ecoregions.
B. Moderate—the species invades two Level III ecoregions 8 Level IV ecoregions.
C. Limited—the species invades only one Level III ecoregion **and** two to six Level IV ecoregions.
D. Narrow—the species invades only one Level IV ecoregion.
U. Unknown.

Worksheet B - Texas Ecoregions (Griffen et al, 2004).

* A. means >50% of type occurrences are invaded; B means >20% to 50%; C. means >5% to 20%; D. means present but ≤5%; U. means unknown

Code	Level III	Level IV	Score
ER01	**Arizona/New Mexico Mountains**	Chihuahuan Desert Slopes	
		Montane Woodlands	
ER02	**Chihuahuan Deserts**	Chihuahuan Basins and Playas	
		Chihuahuan Desert Grasslands	
		Low Mountains and Bajadas	
		Chihuahuan Montane Woodlands	
		Stockton Plateau	
ER03	**High Plains**	Rolling Sand Plains	
		Canadian/Cimarron High Plains	
		Llano Estacado	
		Shinnery Sands	
		Arid Llano Estacado	
ER04	**Southwestern Tablelands**	Canadian/Cimarron Breaks	
		Flat Tablelands and Valleys	
		Caprock Canyons, Badlands, and Breaks	
		Semiarid Canadian Breaks	
ER05	**Central Great Plains**	Red Prairie	
		Broken Red Plains	
		Limestone Plains	
ER06	**Cross Timbers**	Eastern Crosstimbers	
		Western Crosstimbers	
		Grand Prairie	
		Limestone Cut Plain	
		Carbonate Cross Timbers	
ER07	**Edwards Plateau**	Edwards Plateau Woodland	
		Llano Uplift	
		Balcones Canyonlands	A
		Semiarid Edwards Plateau	
ER08	**Southern Texas Plains**	Northern Nueces Alluvial Plains	
		Semiarid Edwards Bajadas	
		Texas-Tamaulipan Thornscrub	
		Rio Grande Floodplain and Terraces	
ER09	**Texas Blackland Prairies**	Northern Blackland Prairies	
		Southern Blackland/Fayette Prairie	A
		Floodplains and Low Terraces	
ER10	**East Central Texas Plains**	Northern Post Oak Savanna	
		Southern Post Oak Savanna	
		San Antonio Prairie	
		Northern Prairie Outliers	
		Bastrop Lost Pines	
		Floodplains and Low Terraces	
ER11	**Western Gulf Coastal Plain**	Northern Humid Gulf Coastal Prairies	
		Southern Subhumid Gulf Coastal Prairies	
		Floodplains and Low Terraces	
		Coastal Sand Plain	
		Lower Rio Grande Valley	
		Lower Rio Grande Alluvial Floodplain	
		Texas-Louisiana Coastal Marshes	
		Mid-Coast Barrier Islands and Coastal Marshes	
		Laguna Madre Barrier Islands and Coastal Marshes	
ER12	**South Central Plains**	Tertiary Uplands	
		Floodplains and Low Terraces	
		Pleistocene Fluvial Terraces	
		Southern Tertiary Uplands	
		Flatwoods	A
		Red River Bottomland	