

Prioritization process report¹ for: *Claytonia perfoliata* Willdenow (CLAPE)

Claytonia perfoliata was prioritized as part of a horizon scanning exercise conducted by the EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien Plants in 2024/25. The output of the prioritization process is that *Claytonia perfoliata* is added to the EPPO Observation List. This report was reviewed and approved by the Panel on Invasive Alien Plants in 2025.

25-30237

Section A - Prioritization process scheme for the elaboration of different lists of invasive alien plants (pests or potential pests) for the area under assessment

Init1. Enter the name of the pest

Claytonia perfoliata

Init2. Indicate the taxonomic position and synonyms

Preferred name: *Claytonia perfoliata* Willdenow

Other scientific names: *Montia perfoliata*

Common names: batolka prorostlá [cs], spiselig vinterportulak [da], Tellerkraut [de], Kubaspinat [de], durchwachsene Claytonie [de], Winterportulak [de], Kragenportulak [de], miner's lettuce [en], spring beauty [en], winter purslane [en], Cuban spinach [en], perfoliate claytonia [en], salaattikleitonia [fi], claytonie perfoliée [fr], claytonie de Cuba [fr], pourpier d'hiver [fr], téli porcsin [hu], spinacio di Cuba [it], claitonia perfoliata [it], kleine winterpostelein [nl], witte winterpostelein [nl], vinterportulakk [no], klajtonia przeszyta [pl], beldroega-de-inverno [pt], клайтония пронзённoлиственная [ru], клейтония пронзённoлиственная [ru], portulaka zimná [sk], vinterportulak [sv]

| - Plantae
|-- Magnoliophyta
|--- Angiospermae
|---- Basal core eudicots
|----- Caryophyllales
|----- Montiaceae
|----- Claytonia
|----- Claytonia perfoliata

Init3. Clearly define the area for prioritization

The EPPO region (Albania, Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guernsey, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jersey, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan)

Init4. Provide the reasons for performing this prioritization, and detail any prioritization reports available for the assessed species.

¹ Using EPPO (2012) PM 5/6 EPPO prioritization process for invasive alien plants. *EPPO Bulletin*, 42, 463-474.

The species was identified by the EPPO Panel on Invasive Alien plants through a horizon scanning exercise for assessment. It was agreed that the species will be prioritized in 2024/25.

A.1. Is the plant species known to be alien in all, or a significant part, of the area under assessment?

Yes

Claytonia perfoliata is native to North America but was introduced in western and central Europe, Central America, New Zealand (EPPO Global Database, 2025).

A.2. Is the plant species established in at least a part of the area under assessment?

Yes, use the justification tab to describe the area where the species is established, and the area of potential establishment, considering major factors such as climatic conditions and soil conditions.

The plant species is naturalised in Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, France (including Corsica, Channel Islands, Monaco), Germany, Great Britain, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden and Spain. In Switzerland the species is introduced with uncertain degree of naturalisation. In Austria, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Lithuania, Norway, Poland and Ukraine the plant is casual. The plant is also present in the Russian Federation and Belarus (Raab-Straube, 2018; Gbif.org).

A.5. How high is the spread potential of the plant in the area under assessment?

High

Claytonia perfoliata is distributed via trade of seeds and plants for planting (with soil attached) (Bernhardt, 1994).

Natural spread is rather small scale (Mazomeit, 2022) but transport by birds is reported in the literature (Bernhardt, 1994).

A.6.

How high is the potential negative impact of the plant on native species, habitats and ecosystems in the area under assessment?

List natural and semi-natural habitats where the species is known to occur based on the EUNIS habitat categorization (<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats-code-browser.jsp>),

High

The species grows in different habitats. It is often found in urban areas along streets but also on public greens, in gardens and plant nurseries. *C. perfoliata* grows also in or near forests and dunes (Mazomeit, 2022).

Mazomeit (2022) describes that adverse effects on uncompetitive, often rare and endangered species of sandy grasslands and sand pine forests are to be expected. This applies not only to plants, but also to invertebrates.

Bischoff (2022) found hardly any other plant species in dense *C. perfoliata* populations. Despite the low height and the fact that it dies back already in early summer, the plant is highly competitive on nutrient-poor sites. The species germinates as early as December and in reasonably mild temperatures, forms a dense canopy of leaves within a few weeks a few centimeters high.

The uncertainty is high as no data from other countries except Germany and the Netherlands was found.

A.7. How high is the potential negative impact of the plant on agriculture, horticulture or forestry in the area under assessment?

The habitats and the situations in which the species has negative impact on agriculture, horticulture or forestry should be listed. It includes EUNIS habitats (<http://eunis.eea.europa.eu/habitats-code-browser.jsp>).

Low

The species might have negative impact in agriculture and horticulture. (Dense) weed stands have to be managed or could otherwise compete with crops. However, roots are rather shallow and plants can be removed easily. Furthermore, the plant is dying back in early summer.

No data on impact were found.

It must be noted, that the species is grown on purpose as winter vegetable in some EPPO countries.

A.8. How high are the potential additional impacts (e.g. on animal and human health, on infrastructures, on recreational activities, other trade related impacts such as market losses)?

Low

There are no additional impacts described. The species is grown on purpose for human consumption.

Conclusion.

- The answer provided to question A.5 on the spread potential of the species assessed was: **High**
- The answer provided to question A.6 on negative impact on native species, habitats and ecosystems was: **Moderate**
- The answer provided to question A.7 on negative impact on agriculture, horticulture or forestry was: **Low**
- The answer provided to question A.8 on additional impacts was: **Low**

According to the ratings provided, the assessed species falls into the:

Observation list of invasive alien plants

The assessment stops here.

Section B - Prioritization process scheme for the identification of invasive alien plants for which a PRA is needed

B.1. Is the plant species internationally traded or are there other existing or potential international pathways?

B.2. Is the risk of introduction by these international pathways identified to be superior to natural spread?

B.3. Does the plant species still have a significant area suitable for further spread in the area under assessment?

Selected References

- Bernhardt, K.-G. (1994) Soziologie und Dynamik der *Claytonia perfoliata*-Bestände auf der ostfriesischen Insel Baltrum. Flor. Rundbr. 28, 62-67.
- Bischoff H. (2022) Das Tellerkraut (*Claytonia perfoliata*), ein weiterer problematischer Neophyt. Pollichia-Kurier 38(1), 8-9
- EPPO Global Database (2025) <https://gd.eppo.int/taxon/CLAPE>
- Mazomeit J. (2022) Ver- und Ausbreitung des Tellerkrauts (*Claytonia perfoliata*) im nördlichen Oberrheingebiet in den 1990er Jahren. Mitt. Pollichia 101, 79-84
- Raab-Straube, E. (2018) Montiaceae. Euro+Med Plantbase - the information resource for Euro-Mediterranean plant diversity. <https://euoplusmed.org/>
- Weeda E.J. (2010) The role of archaeophytes and neophytes in the Dutch coastal dunes. Journal of Coastal Conservation 14, 75-79. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11852-009-0079-2>