

**PRISM**  
(New York Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management)  
**NON-NATIVE PLANT INVASIVENESS RANKING FORM**

PRISM: Long Island Invasive Species Management Area

Scientific name: Ranunculus ficaria USDA Plants Code: RAFI  
 Common names: lesser celandine, fig buttercup  
 Native Distribution: Europe  
 Date Assessed: 20 February 2008; revised March 19, 2008; October 19, 2008  
 PRISM Assessors: Gerry Moore  
 PRISM Reviewers: LIISMA Scientific Review Committee  
 Date Approved: April 21, 2008 Form version date: 25 August 2008  
 New York Relative Maximum score: 85.56 Date NY assessment approved: 3-24-2008  
 New York State Invasive Rank: Very High Invasive Nature

**SUMMARY OF PRISM RANKING RESULTS:**

**Distribution:** Widespread  
**Estimated number of infested sites:** over 100  
**PRISM Invasiveness Rank:** Very High



**A. DISTRIBUTION AND ABUNDANCE (KNOWN/POTENTIAL):**

1. What is the species distribution and abundance in the PRISM?
- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| A. Not present   | Not Present |
| B. Occurs in three or fewer natural areas (locations that are at least ¼ mile apart) with no infested area* >1 acre or containing >100 individuals | Restricted  |
| C. Present in 4–10 natural areas, or with one occupied location >1 acre or containing >100 individuals   | Common      |
| D. Present in >10 minimally managed areas  | Widespread  |
| U. Unknown   | Unknown     |

Answer: Widespread

Describe distribution:  
 Species has been observed in all counties of the PRISM in numerous habitat types.  
 Sources of information:  
 Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2007; Long Island Nature Conservancy, 2007, New York Flora Association, 2007, U.S.D.A., 2007.

\*Definition of “infested area” is the “...actual or percentage of land occupied by [canopy cover of] weed plants” NAWMA (North American Weed Management Association) 2002. North American Invasive Plant Mapping Standards (see <http://www.nawma.org/>).

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2. What is the likelihood the species will occur (if not yet present) or expand its distribution and abundance (if already present) in the PRISM?

Answer: Very likely

Documentation (e.g.: history of establishment in PRISM, suitability of habitats and climate, distribution models, literature, expert opinions):

Current distribution, literature, expert opinions

Sources of information:

Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 2007; Long Island Nature Conservancy, 2007, New York Flora Association, 2007, U.S.D.A., 2007.

### B. INVASIVENESS RANK IN THE PRISM:

Is the species distribution Widespread or Common?

Yes: Go to column A in table below.

No: What is the likelihood of species occurrence or expansion? Answer: Very likely

Very Likely:	Use column A below
Moderately likely:	Use column B below
Unlikely:	Use column C below
Zero likelihood	Invasive potential Insignificant
Unknown	Invasive potential Unknown
Not assessed	Invasive potential not assessed

Assign a PRISM invasiveness rank to the species based on its New York Relative Maximum Score, using the designated column in the table below.

New York Relative Maximum Score	New York Invasiveness Rank	A	B	C
> 80.00	Very High	VH	H	M
70.00-80.00	High	H	M	L
50.00-69.99	Moderate	M	L	Ins
40.00-49.99	Low	L	Ins	Ins
<40.00	Insignificant	Ins	Ins	Ins

**Column used: A (Insert PRISM Invasiveness Rank on page 1)**

New York Relative Maximum Score	New York Invasiveness Rank	INVASIVE RANK IN PRISM		
		A	B	C
> 80	Very High Invasive Nature	VH	H	M
70-80	High Invasive Nature	H	M	L
50-69	Moderate Invasive Nature	M	L	Ins
40-49	Low Invasive Nature	L	Ins	Ins
<40	Insignificant Invasive Nature	Ins	Ins	Ins

### References for species assessment:

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**Citation:** This ranking form for regions within NYS may be cited as: Jordan, M.J., G. Moore and T.W. Weldy. 2008. Invasiveness ranking system for non-native plants of New York's regional "Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management." Unpublished. The Nature Conservancy, Cold Spring Harbor, NY; Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, Brooklyn, NY; The Nature Conservancy, Albany, NY. Note that the order of authorship is alphabetical; all three authors contributed substantially to the development of this protocol.

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