

“B” Rated Weeds

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant,
but may have limited distribution in some counties

Butterfly bush

Buddleja davidii (*B. variabilis*)

Other common names: summer lilac

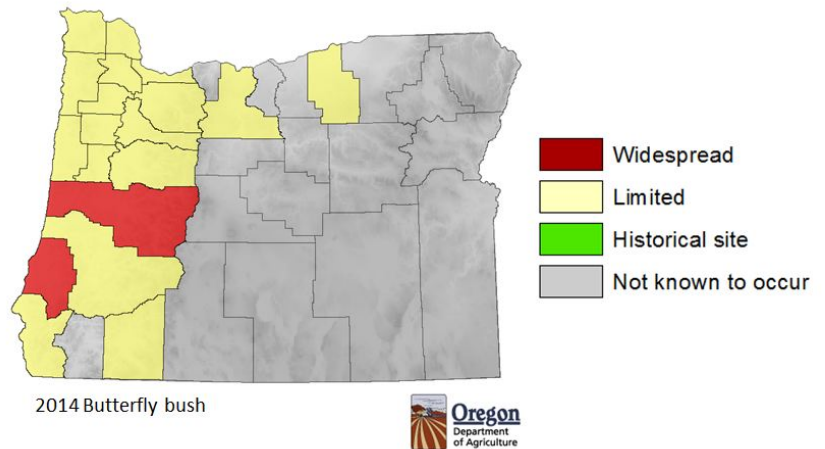
USDA symbol: BUDA2

ODA rating: B



Distribution in Oregon: Coos and Lane Counties have the most reported butterfly bush in the wild. Other western counties have some escaped distribution. In northeastern Oregon, only Umatilla County has reported butterfly bush outside intentional plantings.

Introduction: Butterfly bush is native to northwestern China and Japan. Infestations have established on auto and railroad rights-of-way, in industrial yards and in riparian areas throughout western Oregon during the previous decade. It has been identified in forested areas of the Willamette National Forest and in commercial timberland on Oregon's south coast.



Description: Butterfly bush is a perennial shrub. Flowers are small and purple and come to a more definite point. Flowers and shrub of butterfly bush is similar to lilac but it flowers much later (late summer) than lilac. It grows up to 10 feet tall. Leaves are narrow, opposite and green to blue-gray.

Impacts: This plant is a pioneering species that dominates open habitats. It poses an ecological threat to dry-land meadows, open slopes and dunes, dominating these sites as much as Scotch broom has historically. It also invades reforested sites, resulting in a loss of forest productivity. It can be found along riversides and road and cleared forest in western Oregon.

Biological controls: No approved biological control agent is available.

