



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture • Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service • Legislative and Public Affairs
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USDA SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REGARDING THE BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF CARRIZO CANE

March 6, 2009

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is advising the public that it has prepared an environmental assessment relative to the control of Arundo donax (giant reed, Carrizo cane). The environmental assessment considers the effects of, and alternatives to, the release of a wasp, Tetramesa romana, into the continental United States for use as a biological control agent to reduce the severity of A. donax infestations. APHIS is making the environmental assessment available to the public for review and comment.

This notice is published in the March 6 *Federal Register*.

Consideration will be given to comments received on or before April 6. You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocketDetail&d=APHIS-2008-0141> to submit or view comments and to view supporting and related materials available electronically.
- Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery: Please send two copies of your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0141, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238. Please state that your comment refers to Docket No. APHIS-2008-0141.

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Note to Reporters: Public notices and other APHIS information are available on the Internet. Go to the APHIS news release page at <http://www.aphis.usd.gov> and click on the "Newsroom" button. For additional information about this topic, contact Melissa O'Dell at (301) 734-5222 or by e-mail at Melissa.l.o'dell@aphis.usda.gov.