

GUIDELINES FOR DETERMINING NATIVE SPECIES

As far as can be determined, its occurrence in the flora is wholly due to natural means of dispersal (e.g., migration, natural catastrophes, animals, etc.) and establishment in a natural habitat. Any disputes as to whether a protected plant species or one proposed for protection is a native species will be resolved on a case-by-case basis by the Vascular Plant Technical Committee and the Rare Plant Forum. These established boards shall resolve the matter in the same way questions of protection for plant species are now resolved. One should realize that an adventive species may receive protection using the same criteria applied to native species. In those cases where a protected native species extends its range by natural means into another portion of the Commonwealth, it shall receive the same consideration there.