HOUSE BILL NO. 1156

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE TO
REGULATE NOXIOUS PLANTS; TO DECLARE CERTAIN PLANTS AND WEEDS AS
NOXIOUS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

SECTION 1. (1) The Commissioner of Agriculture may adopt
reasonable regulations to implement and carry out the purposes of
this act to eradicate, repress and prevent the spread of plant
pests and noxious plants and weeds within the state, from within
the state to points outside the state, and from outside the state
to points within the state. The Commissioner of Agriculture shall
adopt regulations for eradicating such plants, pests and noxious
plants and weeds as he may deem capable of being economically
eradicated, for repressing such as cannot be economically
eradicating and for preventing their spread within the state. The
commissioner may also adopt reasonable regulations for preventing
the introduction of dangerous plants, pests and noxious plants and
weeds from without the state.

(2) The commissioner is authorized, in order to control
plant pests, to adopt regulations governing the inspection,
certification and movement of nursery stock into the state from
outside the state, within the state and from within the state to
points outside the state. The commissioner shall designate those
plants and weeds deemed noxious. In addition to the plants and
weeds designated noxious by the commissioner, the following weeds
are declared noxious:

(a) Kudzu;
(b) Hydrilla;
(c) Itchgrass;
(d) Cogongrass;
(e) Tropical soda apple;
(f) Tallow tree;
(g) Giant salvinia;
(h) Purple loosestrife; and
(i) Brazilian satintail.

SECTION 2. Section 1 shall be codified in Chapter 25 of Title 69, Mississippi Code of 1972.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1, 2002.