Invasive Species Reference

Terrestrial Invasive Plants

Invasives Strike Force:

Standard Species

2018







Norway Maple

Acer platanoides

Detailed ID Notes:

Flowers: April-May

Fruits: July

Native Range: Japan, China, and Korea

How to ID: At maturity, it has a gray-brown bark with shallow, intertwining furrows or grooves. The dark green leaves are wider then they are long. Their flower clusters are erect and not drooping.



Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org



Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

1.	Leaves	Opposite, palmately lobed with 5 lobes. Lobes bear 1-3 side teeth, and an otherwise smooth margin.
2.	Bark	Unlike other maples, they do not develop shaggy bark as they mature.
3.	Growth	Grows 65-100 ft. tall with a trunk up to 5 ft. in diameter. Has a broad, rounded crown.
4.	Sap	Unlike other maples, the leaf petiole secretes a milky sap when broken.
5.	Fruits	Paired flattened samaras with widely diverg- ing wings. 160-170°
6.	Habitat	Disturbed habitats, forest edges, and in for- ests. Tolerant of shade and soil types.



Robert Tatina. USDA SCS. 1989. Courtesy of USDA NRCS Wetland Science MDC Staff, Missouri Department of ConservationBugwood.org

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A	cer sacch	arum
Qı	lick ID:	••••
1.	Leaves	Leaf margin entire, smooth. Basal lobes small, while upper lobes are larger and have deeply rounded notches.
2.	Fruits	Globular paired samaras with 60-120° spread
3.	Bark (not shown)	Mature trees: deep furrows and narrow ridges

Acer rubrum

Quick ID: •••••••

1.	Leaves	3-5 broad lobes with broad, shal- low sinuses. With 5 lobes, terminal ones are larger than basal.
2.	Fruits	Wings form a very narrow angle, 50-60°. Light brown-reddish.



Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org

Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bug-wood,org



Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org



Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org

Acer saccharinum

Silver Maple

Quick ID:

1.	Leaves	Deeply five-lobed with narrow si- nuses. Angular notches between the 5 lobes. Downy-silver under- side
2.	Fruits	Largest of native maples, narrow divergence of wings.



Ailanthus altissima

Detailed ID Notes:

Flowers: June-Aug

Fruits: July

Native Range: China

Distribution & Habitat: Disturbed forests, forest edges, old fields, roadsides, urban areas, and can grow in a range of soils.

How to ID: Look for a tree with large compound leaves with many leaflets. Unlike sumac's milky sap, the tree of heaven has clear sap. Young stems and petioles are hairless. Undersides of leaves are green, whereas sumac has white underneath.



Chuck Bargeron, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org





Great Smoky Mountains National Park Resource Management, USDI National Park Service, Bugwood.org



James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

Quick ID: • • • • • • • • • •

1.	Growth	Woody tree with alternate branching. Broken stems can smell of rancid peanut butter
2.	Leaves	Large compound leaves with many leaflets. Leaflets have lobe at the base but are not toothed.
3.	Fruit	Papery seeds called samaras grow close to the stem through the summer.
4.	Bark	Thin and gray with diamond shaped markings on younger trees, and vertical lines as they age.

Annemarie Smith, ODNR Division of Forestry, Bugwood.org



Rhus spp. Flowers: June–July Fruits: July Native Range: North America

Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org

Quick ID: •

1.	Fruit	Fruit is pyramidal cluster of berries, often seen from summer through winter.
2.	Leaves	Leaves have toothed edge with no lobe visible on the leaflet.



John Cardina, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org



Black Walnut ••••••••• Juglans nigra Flowers: June-July Fruits: July Native Range: Eastern North America

Jason Sharman, Vitalitree, Bugwood.org

1.	Bark and Leaf	Bark is rough, even when young. Leaf has many leaflets but no lobes on leaflets
2.	Fruit	Fruit vaguely resembles green apples from mid-summer until they fall in late September/October



Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org

ALT Tree 10' \$ * *

Autumn Olive

Elaeagnus umbellata

Flowers: April-June

Fruits: Sept-Nov

Native Range: Eastern Asia, Korea, China, Japan

Distribution and Habitat: This shrub invades prairies and fields and can also grow in forests. It can grow well in a wide range of soils and can withstand drought, but not exceptionally wet soils.

How To ID: Look for an deciduous shrub or small tree, typically up to 3.5 m. tall with a dense crown. Sharp thorns

tend to be present, in form of spur branches. The white to yellow flowers are fragrant and are seen in small clusters.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org





Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

Quick ID: • • •

1.	Fruit	Produces clusters of small vibrant red berries during the fall. A small red, round, drupe, and if unripe are yellow in color.
2.	Growth	It can be seen as either a dense shrub or a small tree, with a dense crown.
3.	Flowers	They are in axillary clusters up to seven. They are stalked, white to light yellow in color, and have a densely scaled perianth.
4.	Bark	Dark brown; ridged or plated.
5.	Leaves	Covered with small silvery scales when they emerge, and turn greener as the scales wear off. Underside is intensely covered in silvery scales.

Ecological Impacts: High seed production, rapid growth and widely disseminated by birds aid in quick spread and competition over native plants. Autumn olive may adversely influence the nitrogen cycle in the soil, negatively affecting native plant species.

Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Russian Olive

Elaeagnus angustifolia

Flowers: May-Jun

Fruits: Sep-Nov

Native Range: Southern Europe and Western Asia

Distribution and Habitat: Invades disturbed areas, especially where there is adequate sunlight

How To ID: Young branches are silvery while the older branches are brown. They are occasionally thorny and covered with scales.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org



Joseph Berger, Bugwood.org

Quick ID:1.FruitProduces 6 or more green fruits in mid summer at end of
stem. Fruit capsules turn *orange* in the fall, eventually re-
vealing orange-red fruit.2.LeavesSimple, alternate and lanceate to oblong-lanceolate. They
are 1-4 in. long and have silvery scales on both sides.

- **3.** Flowers Fragrant flowers are .5 in. wide, silvery outside and yellow within.
- 4. Growth A dense shrub or tree up to 10 m. tall

OPP Tree 9 20' Invasive

Aralia elata

Detailed ID Notes:

Flowers: July-Aug.

Fruits: Sept.-Oct.

Distribution and Habitat: Disturbed areas, forest edges, meadows and fields, shores of rivers and lakes.

Native Range: Japan, Korea, Manchuria and far eastern Russia.

How to ID: Look for exceptionally large compound leaves that are between 2 and 4 ft. long, borne on stems with large prickles at each leaf axil. Some cultivars have variegated leaves.



Joyce Tomaselli, CCEDC



John Ruter, University of Gerogia, Bugwood.org



T. Davis Sydnor, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, Bugwood.org

1.	Stems	Stems are covered in sharp thorns on a greyish brown smooth bark.
2.	Leaves	Leaf is doubly compound with a fern-like appearance, with thorns at each leaf axil.
3.	Leaf Veins	Leaf veins run all the way to the tips of the teeth.
4.	Flower	Flowers in dense white clusters 30-60 cm wide from July-August. Flowers radiate from separate stems within the cluster.



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Paul Wray, Iowa State University, Bugwood.org

Zanthoxylum clava-herculis

2. Leaves Leaves singly compound like ash or walnut.

Devil's Walkingstick •



Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org



John D. Byrd, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org

Aralia spinosa

Quick ID:•••••••••				
1.	Leaves	Leaf veins diminish in size and branch out before reaching tips of teeth.		
2.	Flower	Flower clusters 1-1.2 meters in width. Flow- ers radiate from a central stem in each clus- ter.		

Black Locust





James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, Richard Webb, Bugwood.org

Robinia pseudoacacia

Quick ID:

 Leaves Compound leaves with rounded leaflets and no thorns in leaf axils.
 Growth Large tree which grows in colonies. Rough bark distinctive from other thorny trees.



Berberis thunbergii

Flowers: May-June

Fruits: July-October

Native Range: Japan

Habitat and Distribution: It occurs in disturbed areas, early successional forest, edge, floodplain forest, forest wetland, and other habitats. It is associated with closed-canopy forests, woodlands and wetlands

How to ID: Look for a compact, spiny, shrub between 1-5 feet tall. Smooth edged leaves range from oval to spatulate and are clustered in tight bunches close to the branches. Single spines bear small leaves in their axils. Yellow flowers are present individually or in small clusters.





John Ruter, University of Geor-

Barry Rice, sarracenia.com, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



John Ruter, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

1.	Leaves	Small, spoon-shaped leaves with a smooth edge. Each leaf cluster contains a single needle-like thorn
2.	Growth	Dense bush may be either red or green in color. Scraping the bark reveals a yellow twig.
3.	Flowers	Small white to yellow flowers grow along the branches May-June.
4.	Fruit	Red berries persist through the winter.
5.	Behavior	Forms dense thickets of arching branches in forest understory. Shades out nearly all other plants.

Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Quick ID: • •

1.	Leaves	Leaves larger than Japanese species with a serrated edge.
2.	Thorns	Broad, pointy thorns grow in groups of 3
3.	Growth	Grows much taller than B. thunbergii, with individual plants reaching 3 meters (10ft)



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Look-alikes

Common Barberry •

Berberis vulgaris

Growth: Shrub

Native Range: Asia's middle and western mountains.

Habitat and Distribution: Less aggressive than it's Japanese cousin, common barberry, is most often found in abandoned gardens.

How to ID: The leaves are much larger and have a serrated edge. The thorns also grow along the branch but grow in bunches of three rather than the single, needle-like thorns on Japanese barberry.





Rosa multiflora

Flowers: May-June

Fruits: Mature in October

Native Range: Eastern Asia

Distribution and Habitat: Prominent in disturbed locations; roadsides, old fields, pastures, prairies, savannas, open woodlands and forest edges. Most productive in sunny and well drained areas.

How to ID: Look for a shrub with arching canes that are significantly branched. Canes may be up to 12 feet long and have stout recurved prickles. Leaves are alternate, pinnately compound, with 5 to 11 leaflets. Fruits are globular to ovoid and 1/4 inch or less in diameter. Fringed petioles distinguish it from other species.



Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org



Randy Westbrooks, Invasive Plant Control, Inc., Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

1.	Thorns	Hooked thorns along the stem and fringed 'stipules' at base of compound leaf
2.	Leaves	Compound leaves with toothed edges
3.	Flower	Multiple, small, white flowers which mature to small red rosehips which persist through the winter.
4.	Growth	Woody shrub with thorns covering all but the thickest stems. Grows to a height of 10-15 feet

Carolina Rose





		Rosa carolina
1.	Leaves	Compound and lacking the fringed stipule.
2.	Flower	Flower is pink and grows individually, not in clusters.

James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service,

John D. Byrd, Mississippi State Universi-

Virginia Rose •

Rosa virginiana

1.	Leaves	Compound and lacking the fringed stipule.
2.	Flower	Flower is pink and grows individually, not in clusters.



James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service,

The way	4	2.

University of Connecticut Plant Database, http://hort.uconn.edu/plants, Mark H. Brand, Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture, Storrs, CT 06269



Missouri Botanical Garden



Rosa palustris

1.	Leaves	Compound and lacking the fringed stipule.
2.	Flower	Flower is pink and grows individually, not in clusters.



Invasive

Japanese Wineberry

Rubus phoenicolasius

Detailed ID Notes:

Flowers: Early summer

Fruits: Fruit matures in June

Native Range: Eastern Asia

Distribution and Habitat: Thrives in edge and wasteland habitats, but can grow in forested areas as well.

How to ID: Look for a multi-stemmed, spiny, small shrub. Canes can be up to 6 ft. in length. The entire plant is covered in red, minute, glandular hairs, a distinctive feature not seen in native berries. They also have three leaflets, unlike the five seen in native blackberries.



Britt Slattery, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Bugwood.org



Troy Evans, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Quick ID: • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

1.	Fruit	Aggregate berry matures in late July to a deep red, sweet fruit
2.	Leaves	Compound leaf with three leaflets with a white and fuzzy underside.
3.	Stems	All stems are green and covered with fine reddish hairs and thin sharp thorns.
4.	Unripe fruit	Immature fruit is covered in same reddish hair as stem.

Hint: Ruby red color of wineberry fruits sets it apart from blackberry and black raspberries

Blackberries

Rubus spp.1. FruitAggregate berries which stick to the
stem, even when mature.2. LeafYoung leaves may have 3 leaflets
but mature leaves have 5. All
leaves have a green underside.3. StemStems are green to reddish with
sharp thorns and no hairs.

Gerald Holmes, California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo, Bugwood.org

Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Black Raspberries

Rubus occidentalis

1.	Leaves	Compound leaves range from 3-5 leaflets with green underside
2.	Stem	Stem is pale green/blue with thorns and without hairs.
3.	Fruit	Berries smaller than other aggregate fruits.



gobotony.newenglandwild.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut,

Red Raspberries

Rubus idaeus



Howard F. Schwartz, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut,

1.	Leaves	Compound with a lighter green underside
2.	Stem	Stem can be green or red with very short hairs



Burning Bush, Winged Euonymous

Euonymus alatus

Detailed ID Notes:

Flowers: Late April to June

Fruits: Sept.-Oct.

Native Range: Northeastern Asia

Distribution and Habitat: Variety of disturbed areas as well as undisturbed forests

How to ID: Look for dense stands of deciduous shrubs that have four corky wings or ridges along stems. It grows multi-stemmed and significantly branched. Small and obovate green leaves become bright scarlet, to purple, in the fall.



Barry Rice, sarracenia.com, Bugwood.org



James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, Bug-wood.org

1.	Twig	Twigs and branches have papery "wings" which wear off as branches grow larger
2.	Leaf	Leaves are oppositely arranged on the twig and turn bright red in fall leading to the common name "Burning Bush". Leaf edge is finely serrate.
3.	Leaf	resemble "bunny ears."
3.	Growth	Grows as a tall understory shrub which leafs out in spring before many other shrubs and trees
4.	Flower	Flowers small and non-descript with 4 petals



James H. Miller, USDA Forest Ser-



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Dow Gardens , Dow Gardens, Bugwood.org



Dow Gardens , Dow Gardens, Bugwood.org

Look-alikes

Blackhaw Viburnum

Viburnum prunifolium Flowers: May-June Fruits:: Aug.-Oct. Native Range: Eastern and central North America

Quick ID: • • • • • • •

1. 2.	Flower Leaf	White flowers with 5 petals grow in broad clusters Oppositely arranged leaves, round in appearance which lack "bunny ears" at the end of branch
3.	Twig (not pictured)	Branches and twigs lack the papery wings of E. alatus.



Arrowwood Viburnum • • • • • • • • • • • •

Viburnum dentatum Flowers: May-June Fruits: Aug.-Nov. Native Range: Eastern North America

Troy Evans, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Bugwood.org



Vern Wilkins, Indiana University, Bugwood.org

1.	Leaf	Leaf is deeply cut and arranged oppositely. Lacks bunny ears.
2.	Flower	White flowers present in small bunches.
3.	Twig (not pictured)	Branches and twigs lack the papery wings of E. alatus.

Mile-a-minute vine

Persicaria perfoliata

Flowers: June

Fruits: July-October

Native Range: India and eastern Asia.

Distribution and Habitat: It occurs in disturbed and open areas along edges of woods, streams, wetlands, uncultivated fields and roads. It can also be found in extremely wet areas with poor soil structure.

How to ID: Look for a trailing vine with reddish stems that have downward pointing barbs. Light green leaves are shaped like an equilateral triangles. Leaves alternate along the stems. Metallic blue, segmented fruit ripen from July to October. Cup-shaped ocreas surround the stem at intervals.



Bruce Ackley, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

1.	Growth	Alternate branching vine, which can create thick blankets over other vegetation.
2.	Stems	Curved prickles along stem and leaf stalks. Stems have joints with a round leaf-like stipule.
3.	Leaves	Leaves appear as equilateral triangle with stem attached in the middle on the under- side of the leaf.
4.	Fruit	Blue berry, ripening July-October



Robert Tatina. USDA SCS. 1989. Courtesy of USDA NRCS Wetland Science MDC Staff, Missouri Department of ConservationBugwood.org

• Climbing False-Buckwheat

Fallopia scandens

Quick ID: ••••••••		
1.	Leaves	Climbing false buckwheat has no prickles on stem and heart- shaped leaf
2.	Fruit	Fall fruit is green with whitish wings.

Hog Peanut • •

Amphicarpaea bracteata
Quick ID: • • • • • • • • •

1.	Leaves	Light colored green leaf has 3 sepa- rate leaflets
2.	Flower	Pale, pink flower present July- September



R. A. Nonenmacher, Amphicarpaea bracteata hog peanut -at the Skaneateles Conservation Area, Onondaga County, New York. 26 August 2015. Wikimedia. Web. Retrieved 29 June, 2016.



Smith, R.W., Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

Arrow-Leaved Tearthumb



Robert H. Mohlenbrock. USDA SCS. 1989. Courtesy of USDA

Persicaria sagittata

Quick ID:		
1.	Leaves	Leaf is longer and rounder than mile-a-minute vine
2.	Growth	Prefers moist to wetland soils. Has similar prickles to mile-a-minute wine.

ALT Vines S S S S Invasive

Oriental Bittersweet ••••••••••

Celastrus orbiculatus

Flowers: May-June

Fruits: September-November

Native Range: Eastern Asia, Korea, China, Japan

Distribution and Habitat: It occurs in forest edges, open woodlands, fields, hedgerows, coastal areas, salt marshes, and disturbed lands. While often found in more open, sunny sites, its shade tolerance allows it to invade forested areas too.

How To ID: Look for an aggressive vine with roundish leaves that are broader than they are long. Young vines have a green stem which turns grayish tan with age. Older

plants create large tangles and often "choke" out neighboring host trees. Fruits occur along stem as opposed to American Bittersweet's fruits which occur at the end of the stem.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

Quick ID:

1.	Fruit	Produces 2-3 green fruits in mid summer along stem. Fruit capsules turn <i>yellow</i> in the fall, eventually revealing orange-red fruit.
2.	Leaves	Alternate leaves which are generally rounded with a point, but can vary. Generally 2x broader than they are long .
3.	Young Growth	Climbs and vines up trees. New vines pop up like snakes and attach themselves to neighboring trees and branches.
4.	Older Growth	Becomes more aggressive as it ages. Older vines may look like tree trunks and form tangled nets that can tear down mature trees.

Hint: Leaves are rounder than the Hardy Kiwi (ACAR) with a wavy, gently serrated edge. Native bittersweet will have similar fruit and flower clusters but on the tips of branches, not along the stem. However, there are reports of hybridization between the two.

Ecological Impacts: Spread primarily by fruit-loving birds, these vines climb other woody plants and may kill mature trees through a combination of shading and uprooting.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

American Bittersweet • • • • • • • • • • •

Celastrus scandens

Flowers: May-Jun

Fruits: Sep-Nov

Native Range: Central and Eastern North America

Distribution and Habitat: It occurs in dry fields, thickets, and hedge rows. Widespread but uncommon.

How To ID: Similar to its Asiatic cousin, American Bittersweet climbs fences, bushes and trees but it lacks the ability to tolerate shading leading to growth in sunny areas and breaks in the forest canopy. Fruits encased in an orange capsule occur at the end of the stem and remain on the vine throughout the winter.

Quick ID: •••••••••••••••

1.	Fruit	Produces 6 or more green fruits in mid summer at end of stem. Fruit capsules turn orange in the fall, eventually re- vealing orange-red fruit.
2.	Leaves	Alternate leaves which are generally rounded with a point, but can vary. Generally 2x longer than they are broad.
2	Growth	Much less aggressive than C. orbiculatus

Ecological Value: Native Bittersweet berries provide important winter food for a number or resident bird species while the vines provide nesting cover year-round. The flowers attract native pollinators and the plant hosts at least 5 species of moth caterpillars. This plant is listed as Exploitably Vulnerable in New York likely due to its historically unsustainable use in holiday wreath-

making.



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Richard Webb, Bugwood.org



Lonicera japonica

Flowers: May-July

Fruits: Sept-Oct

Native Range: Japan, Korea, Eastern China Distribution and Habitat: Wood edges, old fields, ditch banks, thickets, and roadsides throughout the region

How To ID: Look for climbing vines that have entire, sometimes lobed leaves. Native honeysuckles have only entire leaves. Young stems are finely hairy, where natives are glaucous and hairless. The flowers are white to yellow in color.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut,



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

1.	Flowers	Flower clusters are axillary, produced in the axils of leaf pairs along the stem.
2.	Leaves	Leaves are opposite and distinct from each other.
3.	Fruit	Spherical black berries are 3-4mm in size.
4.	Growth	Perennial woody, twining vine, growing up to 10 m. in height.



Trumpet Honeysuckle

Lonicera sempervipens Growth: Vine Flowers: May-July

Fruits: June-Oct.

2.

Native Range: North America. Rarely seen in New York or New Jersey outside of planted locations.





Leaves Smooth, glossy, paired evergreen leaves. Ovate to oblong in shape.

Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org



Twining Honeysuckle

Lonicera dioica Growth: Vine Flowers: May-July Fruits: June-Oct Native Range: North America

Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org

Quick ID:

1.	Flowers	Red, tubular flowers with yellow stamens are arranged in whorls at the end of branches.
2.	Leaves	Leaves are opposite, with uppermost pair being fused.



John Cardina, The Ohio State University, Bug-wood.org

ALT Herba-☆ ₽ ●

Japanese Knotweed

Reynoutria japonica

Flowers: August-Sept.

Fruits: October

Native Range: Japan, China, Korea Distribution and Habitat: Prevalent in disturbed areas, floodplains, forest edges, meadows and fields, and shores of rivers and lakes.

How To ID: Look for an herbaceous plant with leaves that are alternate in a zigzag pattern. Mature stems are hollow with purple speckles and may reach 3 m in height. Creamy white flowers appear in lengthy cluster/ spike formations. Japanese knotweed can quickly form dense bamboo-like stands.



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Jan Samenek, Phytosanitary Administrations, Bug-



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

1.	Flowers	Small white flowers with a green tinge
2.	Leaves	Form from the stem, one per node, alternate- ly in a zigzag pattern
3.	Fruit	White, winged on three sides. 2-4mm
4.	Growth	Herbaceous perennial dicot, growing 10+ ft. tall in dense stands



Fallopia sachalinensis **Growth:** Vine **Native Range:** Northern Japan and far-eastern Russia

David Gent,





Rebekah D. Wallace, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org



Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org

1.	Flowers	Left to right: Giant, Bohemian, Japanese
2.	Leaves	Darker green, crinkled edges. Lobes at base, heart shaped leaf. Left to right: Giant, Bohemian, Japa- nese



John Cardina, The Ohio State University,

Forb Herbaceous

Garlic Mustard •••••••••••••

Alliaria petiolata

Flowers: April-June on second year plants

Fruits: May-July on second year plants

Native Range: Europe, Western Asia, and Northern Africa

Distribution and Habitat: Commonly seen in forest understories and forest edges, garlic mustard can invade pristine areas. It is widespread throughout New York and New Jersey.

How To ID: Garlic mustard has a 2 year life cycle with first year plants growing low to the ground is rosettes of rounded leaves and second year plants growing much taller with pointed leaves and white flowers. No matter the age, the leaves smell like garlic although the smell is lesser in older plants.



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org



Lynn Sosnoskie, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org



Chris Evans, University of Illinois, Bugwood.org

1.	Year 1 Leaves	First year plants have rounded, shallowly- toothed leaves with deep U-shaped base.
2.	Year 2 Leaves	Second year plants have pointed leave which grow along the central stem.
3.	Flowers	Several flowers with 4 white petals each are bunched at the top of second year plants
4.	Fruit	Hundreds of seeds grow in multiple green spike-like siliques on second year plants.
5.	Habits	Grows in dense patches and dominates the understory of a forest if left alone.



Violets ••••••••••••••

Viola spp.

Native Range: Violets are found throughout the northern hemisphere

Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org

Quick ID: • • • • • • • • •

1.	Leaves	Wild violet leaves grow low to the ground and often have pointed tips.
2.	Flower	Violets flower low to the ground and may come in many colors.



Rob Routledge, Sault College, Bugwood.org



Ground Ivy

Glechoma hederacea

Native Range: Europe but widely distributed throughout North America.

Bruce Ackley, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org

Quick ID: • • • • • •

1.	Leaf	Similar to first year garlic mustard but grows on a square stem (mint family).
2.	Growth	Grows as a trailing creeper. Often escapes from gardens. Does not create tall stems.



Bruce Ackley, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org

Japanese stilt grass ••••••

Microstegium vimineum

Flowers: Mid-September

Fruits: Late September to early October

Native Range: Japan, India, Malaysia and China

Distribution and Habitat: Very prominent in disturbed areas, successional forests, forest wetlands, edges, and can thrive in shade.

How to ID: Look for a grass up to 2 m tall. Alternate light green leaves are 5-8 cm long and up to 15 mm wide. The leaves are lanceolate and have a silvery line running down the center of the blade. In late fall, it fades to pale greenish-yellow or turns purple. They quickly form dense monotypic stands.





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1.	Leaves	Light green grass with shiny, silvery stripe down the leaf axis
2.	Growth	Forms dense lawns and patches at wood- land margins and otherwise semi-open areas.
3.	Root	Root structure is shallow and easy to pull out.
4.	Flower	Like many grasses, the flower in non- descript and greenish yellow.
5.	Behavior	Often occurs in trail margins and forms thick carpets which choke out all other growth.



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Quick ID: • • • • • • • • • • • • •

1.	Leaves	Similar to Stilt grass in shape but lacks the sil- very stripe . Edges are rough and will catch skin if you run your fingers along them
2.	Growth	Perennial with a strong root system and tufts of hair at the node
3.	Root	Root is perennial and deep, difficult to pull out.



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Look-alikes

Leersia virginica

Native Range: Eastern North America, often found in partially-shaded lowland or wet areas.



Keener, B. R., A.R. Diamond, L. J. Davenport, P. G. Davison, S. L. Ginzbarg, C. J. Hansen, C. S. Major, D. D. Spaulding, J. K. Triplett, and M. Woods. 2018. Alabama Plant Atlas. [S.M. Landry and K.N. Campbell (original application development), Florida Center for Community Design and Research. University of South Florida]. University of West Alabama, Livingston, Alabama.