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RESOURCES

NH Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership (CWIPP)

www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/coastal/cwipp/index.htm

Invasive Plant Atlas of New England (IPANE)

<http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/ipane>

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

<http://plants.usda.gov>

New England Wildflower Society (NEWS)

www.newfs.org

New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food (DAMF)

www.agriculture.nh.gov

**New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development,
Natural Heritage Bureau (DRED)**

<http://www.naturalheritage.org>

**New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development,
Division of Forests and Lands (DRED)**

http://www.nhdfl.org/organization/div_nhnhi.htm

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES)

www.des.state.nh.us/wmb/exoticspecies

New Hampshire Fish & Game Department

www.wildlife.state.nh.us

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

www.nature.org

**U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA
APHIS)**

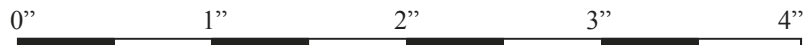
www.aphis.usda.gov

University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension (UNHCE)

www.ceinfo.unh.edu

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New Hampshire Guide to Upland Invasive Species



**New Hampshire
Department of Agriculture
Markets and Food, Plant Industry Division**



**3rd Edition
2011**

Douglas Cygan

Introduction

Throughout the world, non-native invasive species have become an overwhelming problem resulting in impacts to the natural environment and managed landscapes. Invasive species typically possess certain traits that give them an advantage over most native species. The most common traits include the production of many offspring, early and rapid development, and adaptability and high tolerance to many environmental conditions. These traits allow invasive species to be highly competitive and, in many cases, suppress native species. Studies show that invasives can reduce natural diversity, impact endangered or threatened species, reduce wildlife habitat, create water quality impacts, stress and reduce forest and agricultural crop production, damage personal property, and cause health problems.

Invasive species began arriving in North America in the mid-to-late 1700s by various means. Many were brought here for ornamental uses, erosion control, or to provide for wildlife habitat. Others arrived inadvertently through international travel and commerce.

Impacts and Actions

Biologists have found that invasive species cover more than 100 million acres of land in the U.S. and their population numbers continue to spread. The repeated process of spread has become so extreme that invasive species cost the United States billions of dollars per year. This is a result of lost agricultural and forest crops, impacts to natural resources and the environment, and the control efforts required to eradicate them.

On February 3, 1999, President Clinton signed Executive Order 13112, which established the National Invasive Species Council. The Council is responsible for assessing the impacts of invasive species, providing the nation with guidance and leadership on invasive species issues, and seeing that federal programs are coordinated and compatible with state and local initiatives.

Each state is also required to participate by evaluating and responding to their invasive species concerns. In the summer of 2000, the State of New Hampshire passed House Bill 1258-FN, which created the Invasive Species Act (ISA) and the New Hampshire Invasive Species Committee.

GLOSSARY OF PLANT TERMS

- Alternate:** Arranged singly at each node, as leaves or buds on different sides of a stem.
- Annual:** Living or growing for only one year or season.
- Aril:** A fleshy, usually brightly colored cover of a seed that develops from the ovule stalk and partially or entirely envelops the seed.
- Axis:** The point at which the leaf is attached to the main stem or branch.
- Berry:** A small, juicy, fleshy fruit.
- Biennial:** Having a life cycle that normally takes two growing seasons to complete.
- Capsule:** A dry dehiscent fruit that develops from two or more united capsules.
- Compound:** Composed of more than one part.
- Deciduous:** Shedding or losing foliage at the end of the growing season.
- Dehiscent:** The spontaneous opening of a fruit at maturity.
- Drupe:** A fleshy fruit usually having a single hard stone enclosing a seed.
- Entire:** Referring to a leaf not having an indented margin.
- Filiform:** Having the form resembling a thread or filament.
- Furrowed:** A rut groove or narrow depression.
- Glabrous:** Having no hairs or projections; smooth.
- Imbricate:** To be arranged with regular overlapping edges.
- Inflorescence:** A cluster of small flowers arranged on a flower stalk.
- Lanceolate:** A leaf tapering from a rounded base toward an apex, lance-shaped
- Lenticels:** The small, corky pores or narrow lines on the surface of the stems of woody plants that allow the interchange of gases between the interior tissue and the surrounding air.
- Lustrous:** Having a sheen or glow.
- Native:** A species that originated in a certain place or region; indigenous.
- Naturalized:** Adapted or acclimated to a new environment without cultivation.
- Opposite:** Growing in pairs on either side of a stem.
- Ovate:** Broad or rounded at the base and tapering toward the end.
- Panicle:** A branched cluster of flowers in which the branches are racemes
- Peduncle:** The stalk of a solitary flower of an inflorescence.
- Peltate:** Leaf being round with the stem attached near its center.
- Perennial:** Living three or more years.
- Perfect:** Having both stamens and pistals in the same flower.
- Pod:** A dry, several-sealed, dehiscent fruit.
- Pubescent:** Covered in fine short hairs.
- Raceme:** Elongated cluster of flowers along the main stem in which the flowers at the base open first.
- Rhizome:** A horizontal, usually underground stem that often sends out roots and shoots from its nodes.
- Samara:** A winged, often one-seed indehiscent fruit as of the ash, elm or maple.
- Simple:** Having no divisions or branches; not compound.
- Umbel:** A flat-topped or rounded inflorescence.

Lythrum salicaria - Purple Loosestrife

Family: Lythraceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Perennial growing 30-80" tall by $\frac{2}{3}$'s as wide. **Stems:** 4-6 sided, turning woody in summer. **Leaves:** Opposite to whorled, lanceolate, 2-4" long. **Flowers:** Spiked raceme, purple to magenta, June to October. **Fruit:** Capsule. **Habitat:** Mostly found in wetlands and aquatic systems, full to partial sun. **Spread:** Each plant can produce approximately 2.5-4.5 million seeds. Seeds dispersed by water, wildlife and humans. **Comments:** Invades wetlands suppressing native species and destroying wildlife habitat. **Controls:** Hand pull, use a spade to dig larger plants or use biocontrols (*Galerucella Spp.*, top left is a larva & top right is an adult).



Photos by Douglas Cygan

Phragmites australis - Common Reed

Family: Poaceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Perennial rhizomatous grass growing 14' tall. **Stems:** Called 'culms' are large, hollow and grow up to 1" dia. **Leaves:** Lanceolate, up to 24" long, bluish-green in color. **Flowers:** Panicles with many spikelets having seven small reddish flowers. **Habitat:** Mostly found in marshlands, but also grows in freshwater wetlands and aquatic systems, full to partial sun. **Spread:** Spreads primarily by rhizomes. **Comments:** Forms dense colonies that suppress native species and alter wildlife habitat. **Controls:** Hand pull small plants. Use a spade to dig larger plants or apply herbicides.



Photos by Douglas Cygan

New Hampshire Invasive Species Committee

The New Hampshire Invasive Species Committee (ISC) is an advisory group for the Commissioner of the NH Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food (DAMF) on matters concerning invasive species in the state. The ISC consists of 11 appointed members representing the following: the NH Department of Agriculture, the NH Department of Environmental Services, the NH Department of Resources & Economic Development, the NH Department of Transportation, the NH Department of Fish & Game, The College of Life Science & Agriculture of the University of NH, the UNH Cooperative Extension, environmental interests, horticultural interests, general public interests, and livestock owners & feed growers interests. The ISC meets regularly to conduct the following efforts:

- Review information;
- Evaluate and discuss potentially invasive plant, insect and fungi species of concern;
- Host guest presentations on related topics;
- Develop outreach and educational materials;
- Formulate management practices as guidance for the control of invasive species; and
- Prepare lists of proposed prohibited and restricted species.

(Note: This committee is not charged with the evaluation or listing of aquatic plant species, which is conducted by the Department of Environmental Services under RSA-487:16-a. However, a brief description of the program and four of the aquatic species are described on pages 29 & 30 of this book).

New Hampshire Rules

In accordance with the Invasive Species Act (ISA), HB 1258-FN, the DAMF is the lead state agency for terrestrial invasive plants, insects and fungi species. The DAMF has the responsibility for the evaluation, publication and development of rules on invasive plant species. This is for the purpose of protecting the health of native species, the environment, commercial agriculture, forest crop production, and human health. Therefore, the rule, Agr 3800, states "**No person shall collect, transport, import, export, move, buy, sell, distribute, propagate or transplant any living or viable portion of any listed prohibited invasive plant species, which includes all of their cultivars and varieties, listed**" (see the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture's website at www.agriculture.nh.gov to review the complete set of rules).

Invasive Upland Plant Species (Agr 3800)

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Asian Longhorned Beetle	<i>Anoplothora glabripennis</i>	28

Invasive Aquatic Plant Species

To see the complete list of invasive aquatic plants refer to DES's Env-Wq 1300 rules

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New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Aquatic Invasive Plant Species

"Exotic aquatic species" are plants or animals that are not part of New Hampshire's native aquatic flora and fauna. Since the first exotic aquatic plant infestation in New Hampshire was discovered in 1965 in Lake Winnepesaukee, exotic aquatic plant infestations have increased to a total of 83 infestations in 72 waterbodies in 2008. Species present include variable milfoil (63 waterbodies), Eurasian milfoil (3 waterbodies), fanwort (9 waterbodies), water chestnut (1 waterbody) and Brazilian elodea (1 waterbody), Curly Leaf Pondweed (3 waterbodies), and European Naiad (3 waterbodies), and Didymo (1 waterbody). Most of these exotic plants can propagate by fragmentation as well as by seed.

Exotic aquatic plant fragments can easily become attached to aquatic recreational equipment, such as boats, motors, and trailers, and can spread from waterbody to waterbody through transient boating activities. Infestations can have detrimental effects on the ecological, recreational, aesthetic, and economic values of the state's precious surface waters, limiting use of the waterbodies and decreasing shorefront property values by as much as 1020 percent according to a UNH study (Halstead, et al., 2001).

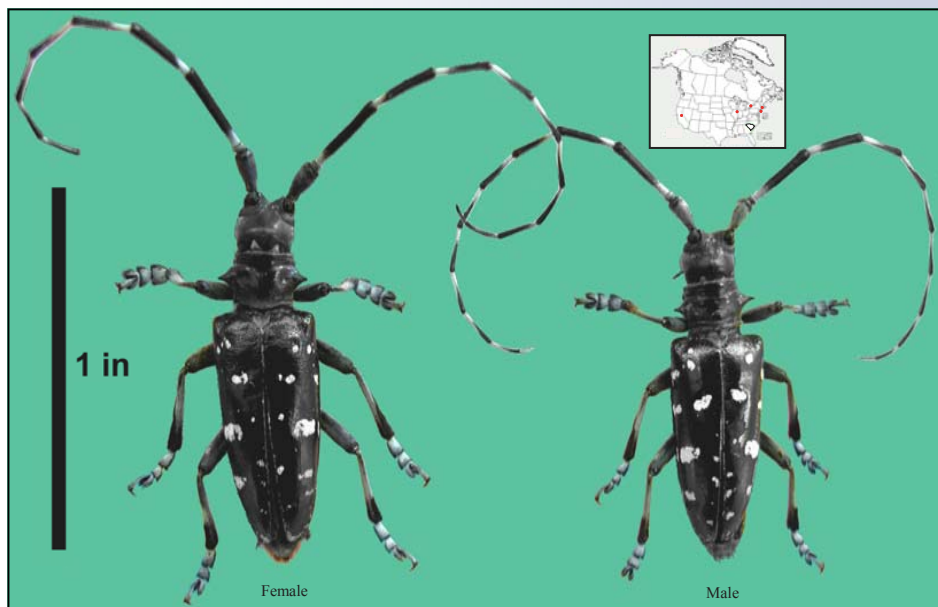
Myriophyllum heterophyllum - Variable Milfoil

Family: Haloragaceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Submerged aquatic perennial growing 20' tall. **Stems:** Round, thick and reddish. **Leaves:** Feathery leaflets surrounding the stem. **Flowers:** Stalks that emerge above the water with green leaves, June to August. **Habitat:** Lakes, ponds, calm streams, and other similar aquatic systems with full to partial sun. **Spread:** It reproduces primarily by vegetative propagules when individual plant segments break off, and dispersed by water movement, humans, and boats. **Comments:** Invades water bodies, suppresses native species and destroys fish habitat. **Controls:** Prevention, hand pulling, bottom screening, and aquatic herbicide use.



Photos by Amy Smagula



Asian Longhorned Beetle—*Anoplophora glabripennis* (Photo by Chris Rallis)

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) is a serious threat to a large variety of deciduous hardwoods in North America. ALB is a large glossy black insect with white spots dotting its elytra. Adults grow to 1-1.5" long and have whitish bandings on their antennae. Females are typically bigger than males. Tree injury occurs when larvae tunnel through the xylem (heartwood) of the host, thus weakening the tree. Hosts trees include, but aren't limited to: Maple, Chestnut, Poplar, Willow, Birch, Elm, and Mountain ash. Adult females chew a crater in the bark and lay 1-egg per site. Upon hatching the larvae feed on the wood and emerge as adults in 1-2 years through perfect $\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter exit holes. Other signs include coarse wood shavings called frass, oozing sap, oviposition sites, leaf-feeding damage, and mature beetles. **If found, please call the NH Dept. of Agriculture at (603) 271-2561.**



Oviposition Site



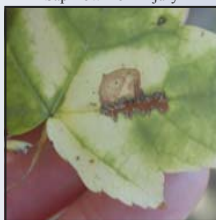
Egg (Rutgers University)



Sap flow from injury



Larval damage (Rutgers Univ.)



Adult feeding damage on leaf



$\frac{3}{8}$ " diameter exit hole

Photos by Douglas Cygan, Chris Rallis & Rutgers University

WHAT YOU CAN DO

There are many things that you, as an individual, can do to help control the spread of invasive species and preserve native flora and fauna:

- Minimize impacts to natural vegetation, soils, and drainage.
- Learn how to identify invasive plants and know how to tell them apart from native species.
- Control invasives on your property by following recommended practices.
- When landscaping, ask your local garden center or contact your County Extension Service about alternative plantings.
- Become active in local or regional initiatives to control invasives.
- After working in an area with invasive species remove any soil, or propagules that may have adhered to clothing, shoes, vehicle tires, etc.

CONTROL METHODS

Mechanical: Mechanical control involves hand pulling, digging, cultivation, mowing, cutting or utilizing some type of physical barrier such as a tarpaulin, mulch, wood chips, etc. This method is most effective when populations of unwanted species are low.

Cultural: Cultural control is the manipulation of a plant community to prevent the introduction or spread of an unwanted species. This can be accomplished by modifying the growing environment such as the soil, available light or moisture, or planting trees or shrubs that can outcompete the invasive species.

Chemical: Chemical control involves the use of an approved herbicide to manage a targeted species. The application method must be chosen to avoid damage to beneficial or native species. The applicator must adhere to all State and Federal pesticide regulations and in many cases be licensed by the state. For more information, contact the NH Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Control Division at 603-271-3550 or www.agriculture.nh.gov.

Biological: Biological control is the use of native or introduced beneficial organisms to naturally reduce populations of unwanted species. Most biological controls are found to be self-sustaining and host specific.



Acer platanoides - Norway Maple

Family: Aceraceae
Native to: Europe



Norway Maple—*Acer platanoides*

Norway Maple (in yellow) Invasion in Franklin, NH

Description: Large deciduous tree 60' high by 40' wide. **Bark:** Grayish and somewhat furrowed. **Twigs:** Smooth, olive-brown. **Buds:** Terminal, imbricate, rounded, smooth, greenish-red. **Leaves:** Opposite, 4-7" wide, 5-lobed, dark green to dark red above, lustrous below. **Flowers:** Greenish-yellow, April. **Fruit:** Horizontal samara. **Zone:** 3-7. **Habitat:** Moist, well drained soils, full sun to partial shade. **Spread:** Seeds spread by wind and water. **Comments:** Leaf stalks exude milky white sap. Fast growing, buds break earlier than most native species. Naturalizes in woodlands where it can outcompete native species. **Controls:** Pull or dig seedlings/saplings. Cut large trees and prune suckers when they sprout. Herbicide: foliar spray, cut-stem, bark banding, or slash bark with ax and apply to wounds.



Milky white sap-leaf petiole



Leaf with winged seed



Terminal buds rounded



Flowers greenish-yellow

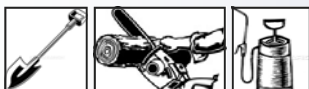


Bark is grayish & furrowed



Leaves turn yellow in Fall

Photos by Douglas Cygan



Agrilus planipennis - Emerald Ash Borer

Family: Buprestidae
Native to: Asia



Canadian Forest Service



Emerald Ash Borer—*Agrilus planipennis*

Dead standing Ash trees (Canadian Forest Service)

Emerald Ash Borers (EAB) are small invasive wood boring beetles that attack all species of ash trees (*Fraxinus spp.*). Native to East Asia, it is suspected that they were accidentally introduced to North America in infested wood packing material. The adults are 3/8" to 1/2" in length by 1/16" in width. Their bodies have a dark metallic green appearance. Adults emerge from a D-shaped exit hole from late May to mid-July and live for 3-6 weeks, during which time they feed on ash foliage, and fly 1-mile or so in search of a mate and to lay eggs. Females will lay 60-90 eggs in the crevices of ash tree bark. Larvae emerging from the eggs create distinctive S-shaped feeding galleries within the cambium which is directly beneath the bark. These feeding galleries can girdle the tree and result in tree death. Movement of EAB into new uninfested areas is principally through transportation of firewood. **If found, please contact the NH Dept. of Agriculture at (603) 271-2561.**



Egg



Larvae in feeding galleries



Adult with wings spread



Feeding galleries in cambium



D-shaped exit hole



EAB Purple prism trap

Photos by Douglas Cygan & Chris Rallis

DO NOT MOVE FIREWOOD

Adelges tsugae - Hemlock Wooly Adelgid

Family: Adelgidae
Native to: Asia



Hemlock Wooly Adelgid—*Adelges tsugae* Nests



Hemlock trees dead from Adelgid (www.earthportal.org)

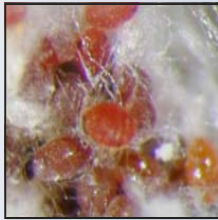
Hemlock Wooly Adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*) (HWA) is a serious pest to all North American hemlock trees (*Tsuga spp.*). It is native to Japan & China and was first found in the Pacific Northwest in the 1920's. By the 1950's it had reached the east coast and now infects hemlock trees from Georgia to Maine. It spreads by movement of nursery stock, wind and animals. These insects are extremely small averaging about $\frac{1}{8}$ " in length with piercing-sucking mouth parts similar in appearance to aphids. All adults are females with each producing 50-300 eggs. To protect themselves & their eggs they produce a white-waxy covering. Adults insert their piercing mouth parts into the stem at the base of the needles. Trees die from needle loss & lack of nutrition. **If found, please call the NH Dept. of Agriculture at (603) 271-2561.**



Adult female laying eggs



Egg mass in protective nest



Eggs & crawlers (Chris Rallis)



Heavily infested branch



Crawlers (Chris Rallis)



Crawler leaving nest (Chris Rallis)

Photos by Douglas Cygan & Chris Rallis

Ailanthus altissima - Tree of Heaven

Family: Simaroubaceae
Native to: China



Tree of Heaven—*Ailanthus altissima*

Description: Deciduous tree up to 60' tall by 40' wide. **Bark:** Grayish, slightly furrowed. **Twigs:** Reddish-brown. **Leaves:** Compound, 18-24" long with 13-25 leaflets arranged alternately on stem, lanceolate, 3-5" long with 2-4 teeth near base. **Flowers:** Panicles, 8-16" long, yellowish-green, mid-June. **Fruit:** Samara. **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Highly adaptable and pollution tolerant, full sun to partial shade. **Spread:** Seeds are wind dispersed. **Comments:** Very fast growing, dense canopy shades out native species. **Controls:** Remove seedlings and saplings by hand. Larger trees can be mechanically removed or cut. To prevent suckering, if trees are cut, apply herbicide to cut portion of stump.



Tree of Heaven invasion



Leaf scar on stem



Compound leaves & leaf



Leaf bud



Flowers yellowish-green



Bark grayish & furrowed



Winged seed cluster

Photos by Douglas Cygan

Alliaria petiolata - Garlic Mustard

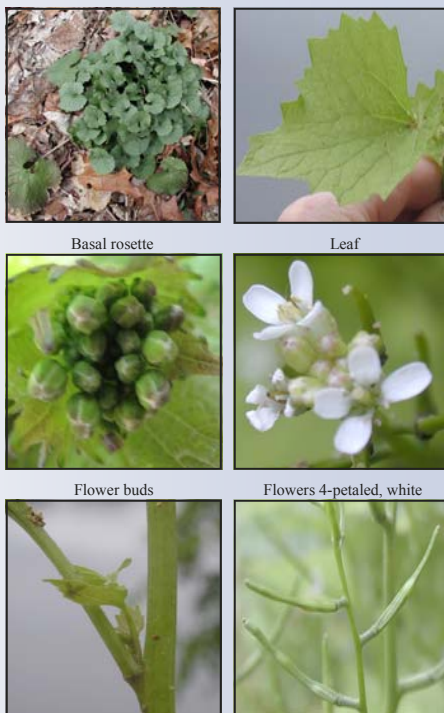
Family: Cruciferae
Native to: Europe



Garlic Mustard—*Alliaria petiolata*

Woodland invasion (photo by Cornell University)

Description: Cool season biennial, 2nd year plants flower and reach 2-3½' tall. **Leaves:** Triangular, coarsely toothed, heart-shaped. **Flowers:** Umbel, small, 4-petals, white, April-May. **Fruit:** Pods, seeds turn black when mature. **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Prefers moist shaded floodplains, forests and roadsides, adaptable to most soil and light conditions. **Spread:** Seeds spread by water and wildlife. **Comments:** Plants spread quickly into natural areas leading to competition and displacement of native species. **Controls:** Small populations can be hand pulled while large populations can be continuously cut back to prevent flowering and seed production. Herbicide treatments are also effective.



Stems

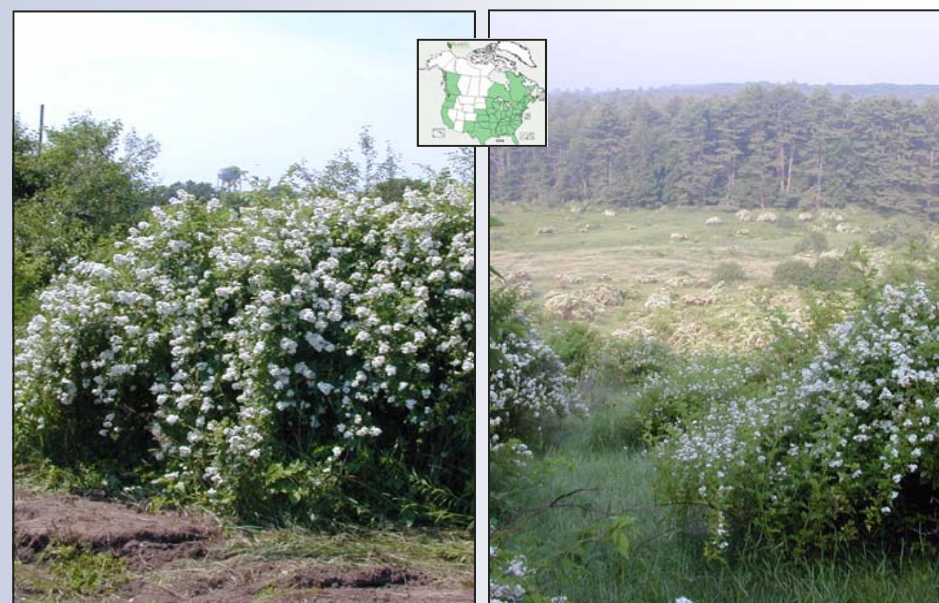
Seed pods

Photos by Douglas Cygan



Rosa multiflora - Multiflora Rose

Family: Rosaceae
Native to: Japan & Korea



Multiflora Rose-*Rosa multiflora*

Multiflora Rose invasion, Canterbury, NH

Description: Hardy shrub / climber reaching up to 15' or more in height and 10' in width. **Stems:** Long and arching, forming dense clumps, thorns may or may not be present. **Leaves:** Alternately arranged, compound with 7-9 leaflets and having feather margins at base. **Flowers:** Clusters of white or pink, June to July. **Fruit:** Rose hips turn red in fall. **Zone:** 3-8. **Habitat:** Prefers moist, well drained soils, full sun. **Spread:** Fruits with seeds are dispersed by birds. **Comments:** Very aggressive, leading to competition and displacement of native species. **Controls:** Hand or mechanical removal, cutting, or herbicide application.



Fall color

Fruit is called a hip

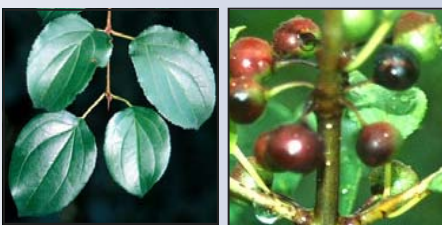
Photos by Douglas Cygan



Rhamnus cathartica - Common Buckthorn

Family: Rhamnaceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Deciduous shrub or small tree measuring 20' by 15'. **Bark:** Grayish to brown with raised lenticels. **Stems:** Cinnamon colored with terminal spine. **Leaves:** Opposite, simple and broadly ovate with toothed margins. **Flowers:** Inconspicuous, 4-petaled, greenish-yellow, mid-June. **Fruit:** Fleshy, 1/4" diameter turning black in the fall. **Zone:** 3-7. **Habitat:** Adapts to most conditions including pH, heavy shade to full sun. **Spread:** Seeds are bird dispersed. **Comments:** **Highly:** Aggressive, fast growing, outcompetes native species. **Controls:** Remove seedlings and saplings by hand. Larger trees can be cut or plants can be treated with an herbicide.



Photos courtesy of John M. Randall/The Nature Conservancy



Rhamnus frangula - Glossy Buckthorn

Family: Rhamnaceae
Native to: Japan

Description: Tall deciduous shrub up to 20' in height by 15' wide, **Bark:** Grayish with whitish lenticels. **Twigs:** Reddish-brown. **Leaves:** Ovate, 4-5" long by 3-4" wide, arranged oppositely or whorled on stem. **Flowers:** Small, greenish-white, mid-June. **Fruit:** Fleshy, turning black in the fall. **Zone:** 2-7. **Habitat:** Highly adaptable and pollution tolerant, full sun to partial shade. **Spread:** Seeds are bird dispersed. **Comments:** Very fast growing, dense canopy shades out native species. **Controls:** Remove seedlings and saplings by hand. Larger trees can be cut or herbicide may be used.



Photos by Douglas Cygan



Berberis thunbergii - Japanese Barberry

Family: Berberidaceae
Native to: Japan



Japanese Barberry-Berberis thunbergii



Japanese Barberry invasion, Antrim, NH

Description: Deciduous shrub, 2-4 1/2' tall. **Leaves:** Ovate, simple, entire. Color varies depending on variety. **Flowers:** Small yellowish, bloom in May in clusters of 2-4. **Fruit:** Drupe, turning red in summer. **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Prefers well drained soils in semi shade and often occurring in forests, roadsides, and open fields. **Spread:** Seeds are dispersed by wildlife. **Comments:** Forms dense thickets in natural environments where it becomes established, resulting in impacts to native flora and fauna. **Controls:** Remove small immature plants by hand. Dig larger plants with a garden spade or remove mechanically. Cut stems at base or control with herbicide treatment.



'Crimson Pygmy' variety



Leaves



Thorn



Flowers yellowish



Frost covered Barberry



Fruit is a fleshy drupe

Photos by Douglas Cygan



Berberis vulgaris - European Barberry

Family: Berberidaceae
Native to: China



European Barberry-Berberis vulgaris

Woodland invasion, Claremont, NH

Description: Shrub 3-8' in height by 3-6' in width. **Stems:** Tan bark with 3 long spines at each leaf axis. **Leaves:** Alternate, simple, 1/2"-1 1/2" long, bright green above, dull below. **Flowers:** Perfect, yellow, 1/2" long, mid-April to May. **Fruit:** Oblong drupe turning pale red in fall. **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Prefers full sun to partial shade and open spaces to wooded areas. **Spread:** Seeds are dispersed by birds and wildlife. **Comments:** Highly adaptable to most environments and is pollution tolerant. **Controls:** Hand pull young plants. Cut or mechanically remove older larger plants or apply approved herbicides for large populations.



Thorns

Leaves



Flowers

Flowers whitish-yellow



Stems

Seed pods

Photos by Douglas Cygan



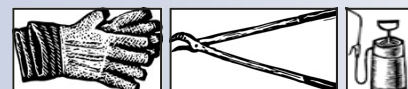
Polygonum cuspidatum - Japanese Knotweed

Family: Polygonaceae
Native to: Japan

Description: Perennial reaching 10' in height and width. Bohemian Knotweed (*Reynoutria x bohemica*) is similar. **Stems:** Greenish, hollow and jointed, similar to bamboo. **Leaves:** Alternate, broadly ovate, 3-7" long. **Flowers:** Small, whitish, forming panicles, August-September. **Seeds:** Calyx, brown, triangular. **Habitat:** Found in woodland sites, open spaces, ditches, roadsides, riverbanks. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. **Spread:** Stem & root fragments, and by seed. **Comments:** Aggressive, spreads quickly along surface waters and in right-of-ways. **Controls:** Do not mow, cut stems at base then smother by covering area with heavy-duty fabric/plastic, herbicides also recommended.



Photos by Douglas Cygan



Polygonum perfoliatum - Mile-a-Minute Vine

Family: Polygonaceae
Native to: Asia

Description: Very fast growing herbaceous perennial vine growing to 25' in height. **Stems:** Greenish with stiff barbs used for support. **Leaves:** Alternate, triangular in shape with clasping bract at the base, 1-3" long. **Flowers:** Racemes, inconspicuous and white forming at the bract, August - October. **Seeds:** An achene within a greenish, berry-like fruit. **Habitat:** Grows in partial shade to full sun, fields, roadsides & forests. Prefers moist, well-drained soils. **Spread:** Seed spread by birds & wildlife. **Comments:** Fast growing, aggressive. **Controls:** Mowing, hand cutting or herbicide use is recommended.



Photos by Leslie J. Mehrhoff



Microstegium vimineum - Japanese Stilt Grass

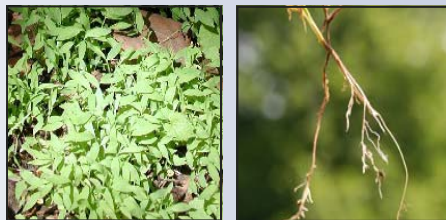
Family: Poaceae
Native to: Asia



Japanese Stilt Grass—*Microstegium vimineum*

Japanese Stilt Grass woodland invasion

Description: Weak-stemmed annual grass, reaching 2-4' tall. **Leaves:** Lanceolate, tapered at both ends, 2-3" long with silvery stripe of reflective hairs down the midrib. **Flowers:** Racemes occur at the ends of the stalk itself, late August. **Fruit:** Achenes develop in late fall. **Zone:** 5-11. **Habitat:** Occurs along riverbanks, floodplains, forests and roadsides, adaptable to most soil and light conditions. **Spread:** Seeds spread by water, wildlife & humans. **Comments:** Plants spread quickly into natural areas leading to competition and displacement of native species. **Controls:** Small populations can be hand pulled while large populations can be continuously cut back to prevent flowering and seed production. Herbicide treatments are also effective.



Early development

Root (UMASS Extension)



Leaf with silvery reflective hairs along midrib



Fall-leaves turn purplish

Seed-Achene

Photos courtesy of Leslie J. Mehrhoff/UCONN-IPANE and UMASS Extension



Celastrus orbiculatus - Oriental Bittersweet

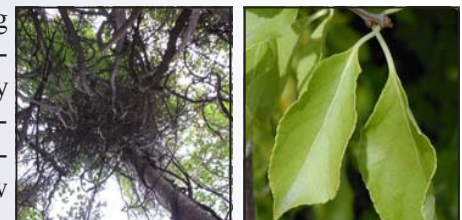
Family: Celastraceae
Native to: Japan, China



Oriental Bittersweet-*Celastrus orbiculatus*

Oriental Bittersweet invasion, Concord, NH

Description: Deciduous vine reaching heights of 40-60'. **Bark:** Tannish, furrowed. **Leaves:** Alternate, ovate, bluntly toothed, 3-4" long by 2/3's as wide, tapered at the base. **Flowers:** Small, greenish, blooming in spring. **Fruit:** Yellow dehiscent capsule surrounding an orange-red aril. *Fruits occur in the axils of the stems whereas native bittersweet (Celastrus scandens) fruits at the ends.* **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Disturbed edges, roadsides, fields, forests and along rivers and streams. **Spread:** Birds and humans. **Comments:** Very aggressive, climbs up and over trees and smothers them. Do not buy wreaths made of these vines. **Controls:** Difficult to manage. Cutting, pulling, or recommended herbicide use applied to foliage, bark, or cut-stump.



Looking up into canopy

Leaves



Native trees being strangled

Flowers yellowish-white



Mature Orange-yellow fruit

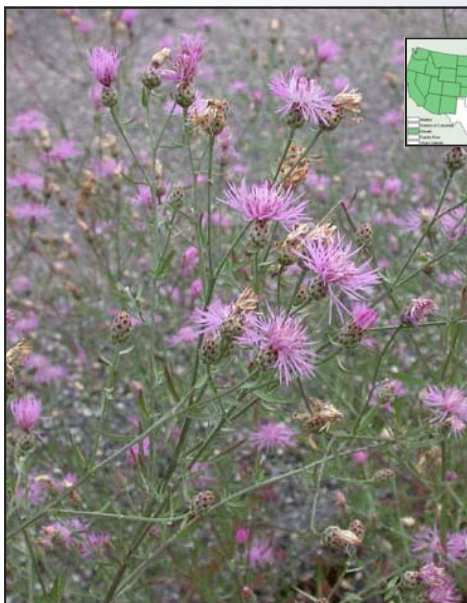
Fruit is a fleshy capsule

Photos by Douglas Cygan



Centaurea maculosa - Spotted Knapweed

Family: Compositae
Native to: Eurasia



Spotted Knapweed—*Centaurea maculosa*



Invasion (photo by Leslie Mehrhoff)

Description: Tall erect herbaceous perennial living 3-5 years. **Leaves:** Alternate, divided, Pale green, 1-3" long. **Flowers:** Aster-like, terminal, purple, July-August. **Fruit:** Each plant produces thousands of brownish seeds per year. **Zone:** 3-10. **Habitat:** Invades dry sunny roadsides, fields and waste places. Its large taproot allows it to survive harsh winters and draught. **Spread:** Seeds spread by wind and wildlife. **Comments:** Plants spread quickly into natural meadows and fields leading to competition and displacement of native species. Roots excrete a toxin killing off other plants. **Controls:** Small populations can be hand pulled while large populations can be continuously cut back to prevent flowering and seed production. Herbicide treatments are also effective.



Basal rosette



Leaf



Seed head



Flowers—Aster like



Stems



Seeds

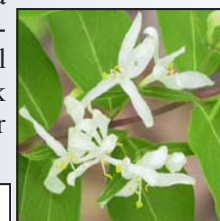
Photos by Leslie Mehrhoff & Douglas Cygan



Lonicera morrowii - Morrow's Honeysuckle

Family: Caprifoliaceae
Native to: Japan

Description: Shrub reaching 6-8' tall. **Stems:** Smooth, glabrous, Tannish, hollow. **Leaves:** Ovate, simple, entire, opposite, pubescent beneath, 1-2 1/2" long. **Flowers:** Tubular, white, turning yellow with age, May to June. **Fruits:** Berry turning red. **Zone:** 3. **Habitat:** Moist to wet shaded floodplains, forests, roadsides, fields, waste places. **Spread:** Seeds are dispersed by wildlife and humans. **Comments:** Rapidly invades sites, forming a dense vegetative layer that outcompetes native flora and fauna species. **Controls:** Hand control is effective for small plants, while mechanical removal and repetitive cutting also work well. Herbicide treatment is better for areas with greater infestations.



Photos by Douglas Cygan & Leaf Photo by Leslie J. Mehrhoff



Lonicera tatarica - Tatarian Honeysuckle

Family: Caprifoliaceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Upright deciduous shrub reaching 6-15' tall. **Stems:** Smooth, glabrous, tan, hollow. **Leaves:** Ovate, smooth, bluish-green, opposite, 1-2 1/2" long. **Flowers:** Tubular, pink or white, April to May. **Fruit:** Berry with two seeds, turning red in fall. **Zone:** 3. **Habitat:** Under story species in woodland sites, also invades open spaces. Thrives in moist soils. **Spread:** Seeds dispersed by wildlife and humans. **Comments:** Rapidly invades forests, fields, roadsides and floodplains. Outcompetes native species. **Controls:** Hand control is effective for small plants while mechanical removal, cutting and chemical applications are better for larger stands.



Photos by Leslie J. Mehrhoff & Berry Photo by Douglas Cygan



Lonicera x bella - Showy Bush Honeysuckle

Family: Caprifoliaceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Shrub reaching 20' in height and width. **Stems:** Greenish to tan with corky wings. **Leaves:** Oppositely arranged, simple and elliptic, 1-3" long by half as wide, light green. **Flowers:** Yellow, white or pink, May to early June. **Fruit:** Fleshy red, forming in pairs in leaf axis. **Zone:** 4. **Habitat:** Prefers dry upland soils, full sun to heavy shade, pH adaptable. **Spread:** Seeds are dispersed by birds. **Comments:** *L. x bella* is a cross between *L. tatarica* & *L. morrowii*. Spreads into natural areas forming dense stands, which displace native species. **Controls:** Hand or mechanical removal, continuous cutting, girdling, and herbicide treatment.



Photos courtesy of Leslie J. Mehrhoff/UConn-IPANE



Lonicera japonica - Japanese Honeysuckle

Family: Caprifoliaceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Climbing vine. **Stems:** Reddish-brown, pubescent. **Leaves:** Opposite and not clasping the stem as opposed to the three native honeysuckle vines that do clasp the stem, oblong, 1 1/2-2" long, rounded at base. **Flowers:** Tubular, white or yellow, fragrant, May to mid-July. **Fruit:** Berry, smooth, blackish to slightly purplish. **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Prefers moist soils and full sun to partial shade. **Spread:** Seeds spread by wildlife. **Comments:** Vines grow quickly, covering native vegetation, resulting in loss of habitat. **Controls:** hand or mechanical removal, cutting, girdling, chemical.



Photos courtesy of John M. Randall/The Nature Conservancy
& Leaf Photo by Leslie J. Mehrhoff



Cynanchum nigrum - Black Swallow-Wort

Family: Asclepiadaceae
Native to: Eurasia

Description: Perennial herbaceous vine that grows to 6'. **Leaves:** Opposite, lanceolate, dark glossy green, simple with a smooth edge, 2-4" long. **Flowers:** Small 1/4", 5-petaled, purplish, from June to September. **Seed:** Seeds are similar to those of milkweed. **Zone:** 4 to 8. **Habitat:** It prefers full to partial sun. **Spread:** Seeds dispersed by wind. **Comments:** Invades roadsides, fields, disturbed sites, meadows, and woodlands, out-competing native species. **Controls:** Hand pull young plants. Remove and destroy seed pods before they open. Apply herbicides as a foliar spray during the growing season. If plants are to be dug, use a spade and make sure that all root fragments are removed.

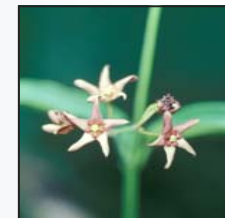


Photos by Douglas Cygan

Cynanchum rossicum - Pale Swallow-Wort

Family: Asclepiadaceae
Native to: China

Description: Perennial vine growing to 3-6'. Very similar to black swallow-wort with the exception of the flowers. **Leaves:** Opposite, lanceolate, 2-4" long. **Flowers:** Magenta, 3/8", flowering from June to September. **Seed:** Seeds are similar to milkweed. **Zone:** 4 to 8. **Habitat:** It prefers full to partial sun. **Spread:** Seeds dispersed by wind. **Comments:** Invades roadsides, fields, disturbed sites, meadows and woodlands. **Controls:** Hand pull young plants. Remove and destroy seed pods before they open. Apply herbicides as a foliar spray. Dig using a spade to ensure all root fragments are removed.



Photos courtesy of John M. Randall/The Nature Conservancy



Elaeagnus umbellata - Autumn Olive

Family: Elaeagnaceae
Native to: Asia



Autumn Olive—*Elaeagnus umbellata*

Autumn Olive invasion in Concord, NH

Description: Weedy deciduous shrub measuring 20' by 20'. **Bark:** Silvery-gray and smooth with whitish lenticels. **Stems:** Cinnamon-brown. **Leaves:** Elliptical, 2-3" long, glossy, green above and silverish below. **Flowers:** Solitary, whitish, 4-petaled, mid-June. **Fruit:** Drupe. **Zone:** 3-8. **Habitat:** Naturalizes in open spaces exposed to full sun. **Spread:** Seeds dispersed by birds and wildlife. **Comments:** Very aggressive. Outcompetes and displaces native species. **Controls:** Remove seedlings and saplings by hand. Larger shrubs can be mechanically removed, or cut and apply herbicide to stump.



Silvery-gray Bark



Leaves



Terminal bud



Flowers whitish



Fall Color



Fruit is a fleshy drupe

Photos by Douglas Cygan



Ligustrum obtusifolium - Blunt-leaved Privet

Family: Oleaceae
Native to: Europe



Blunt-leaved Privet-*Ligustrum obtusifolium*

Blunt-leaved Privet (Photo: Leslie J. Mehrhoff)

Description: Shrub reaching 12' tall by 10-12' wide. **Stems:** Greenish, smooth. **Leaves:** Opposite, simple and elliptic, 1-3" long by half as wide, blunt tipped, light green. **Flowers:** Small white panicles, May to early June. **Fruit:** Small blackish drupe. **Zone:** 4-7. **Habitat:** Prefers dry upland soils, full sun to heavy shade, pH adaptable. **Spread:** Seeds dispersed by birds. **Comments:** Becomes established in natural areas leading to competition and displacement of native species. **Controls:** Hand or mechanical removal, cutting, herbicide applications such as foliar or cut-stem.



Twig/stem bark



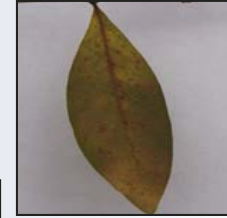
Leaves



Terminal bud



Flowers white



Fall color



Fruit is a dark drupe

Photos by Douglas Cygan & Leslie Mehrhoff



Lepidium latifolium - Perennial Pepperweed

Family: Cruciferae
Native to: Eurasia



Perennial Pepperweed—*Lepidium latifolium*

Perennial Pepperweed invasion Seacoast area, NH

Description: Long lived perennial growing 2-4' tall. **Leaves:** Alternate, lanceolate with serrated edge. **Flowers:** Terminal, tightly clustered, white, July. **Fruit:** Silicle, rounded, flattish, hairy $\frac{1}{16}$ " long. **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Prefers wet, brackish soils such as coastal tidal marshes and ditches, wetlands, and floodplains. **Spread:** Seeds and creeping rhizome fragments spread by water, wildlife and humans. **Comments:** Plants spread quickly into natural areas leading to competition and displacement of native coastal wetland species. **Controls:** Small populations can be hand pulled while large populations can be continuously cut back to prevent flowering and seed production. Herbicide treatments are also effective.



Basal rosette



Leaf



Rhizome root with shoot



Flower head



Persistent stems



Seeds (photo—USDA)



Photos by Kevin Lucey & Jennifer Forman

Euonymus alatus - Burning Bush

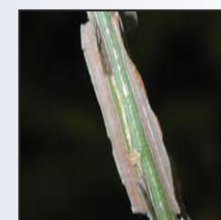
Family: Celastraceae
Native to: Asia



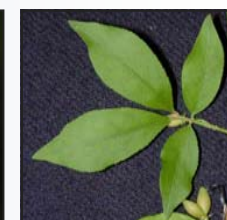
Burning Bush-*Euonymus alatus*

Burning Bush invasion, Boscawen, NH

Description: Deciduous shrub reaching 20' in height and width. **Stems:** Greenish with corky wings. **Leaves:** Oppositely arranged, simple and elliptic, 1-3" long by half as wide, light green. **Flowers:** Inconspicuous greenish-yellow, May to June. **Fruit:** Fleshy green capsule turning red in fall. **Zone:** 3 to 8. **Habitat:** Prefers dry upland soils, full sun to heavy shade, pH adaptable. **Spread:** Seeds are dispersed by birds and wildlife. **Comments:** Outcompetes and displaces native species. **Controls:** Hand remove seedlings and saplings. Use a spade or shovel to dig out larger plants. Large populations may be controlled with herbicide use.



Corky-winged bark



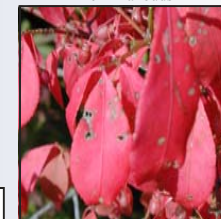
Leaves



Terminal buds



Flowers yellowish-white



Fall color



Fruit is a fleshy capsule

Photos by Douglas Cygan



Heracleum mantegazzianum - Giant Hogweed

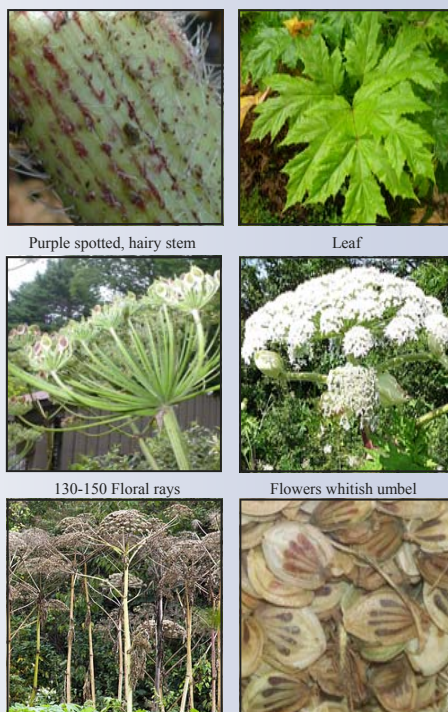
Family: Apiaceae
Native to: China



Giant Hogweed-*Heracleum mantegazzianum*

Open field invasion (Photo-Bugwood.org)

Description: Biennial growing to 15' tall. **Stems:** Greenish with purple splotches, 2-4" diameter with coarse hairs, hollow. **Leaves:** Large, compound, deeply incised, 3-5' wide, hairy on underside. **Flowers:** White inflorescence, 1-2' in diameter, May-June. **Seeds:** Flattened, $\frac{3}{8}$ " long, ovate with 4 brown resin canals. **Zone:** 3-8. **Habitat:** Found in wet areas, roadsides, gardens, open spaces, full sun to partial shade. **Spread:** Seeds dispersed by water, wildlife and humans. **Comments:** The clear, watery sap is phototoxic to human skin, causing severe blistering and burns. Spreads readily and displaces native species. **Controls:** Remove plants by digging up tap root. Herbicide can also be used as a foliar treatment.



Purple spotted, hairy stem

Leaf

130-150 Floral rays

Flowers whitish umbel

Persistent dead stalks

Seeds with resinous veins

Photos by Douglas Cygan



Hesperis matronalis - Dame's Rocket

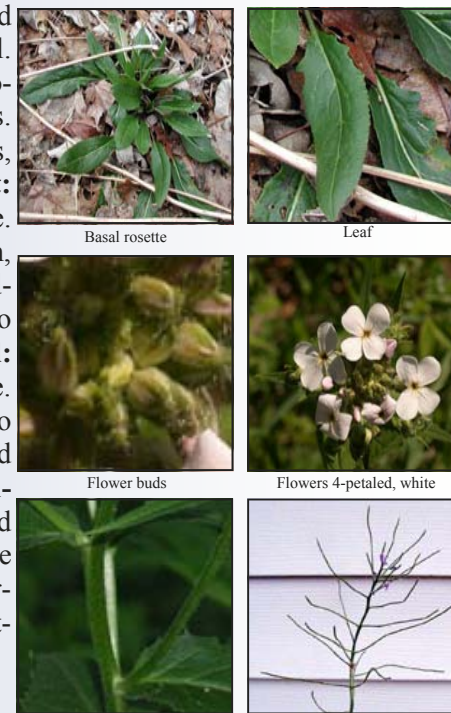
Family: Brassicaceae
Native to: Eurasia



Dame's Rocket—*Hesperis matronalis*

Dame's Rocket invasion

Description: Cool season biennial, 2nd year plants flower and reach 30" tall. **Leaves:** Alternately arranged and lanceolate in shape with toothed margins. **Flowers:** Terminal racemes, 4-petals, purplish, early to mid spring. **Fruit:** Pods, seeds turn brown when mature. **Zone:** 4-8. **Habitat:** Prefers partial sun, moist to mesic conditions such as floodplains, forests and roadsides, adaptable to full sun with adequate moisture. **Spread:** Seeds spread by water and wildlife. **Comments:** Plants spread quickly into natural areas leading to competition and displacement of native species. **Controls:** Small populations can be hand pulled while large populations can be continuously cut back to prevent flowering and seed production. Herbicide treatments are also effective.



Basal rosette

Leaf

Flower buds

Flowers 4-petaled, white

Stems

Seed pods

Photos by Leslie Mehroff

