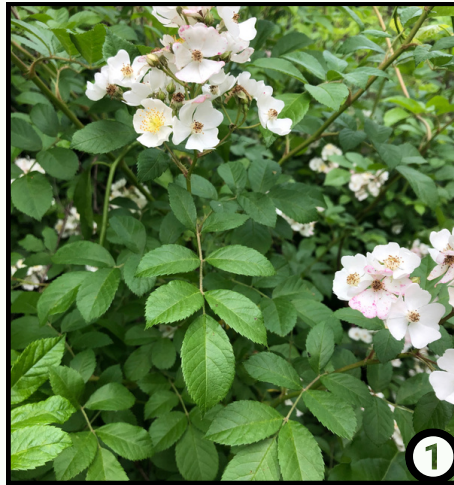


What invades fields and forests and destroys wildlife habitat?

The Culprit: Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)



Multiflora rose is extremely prolific and can form impenetrable thickets that exclude native plant species.

Multiflora rose was introduced to North America in the 1880s as root stock for garden roses and was later planted for erosion control, windbreaks, to provide a winter food source for wildlife.

Now we know =>

Multiflora rose alters the structure of grasslands and forests and makes them less suited for nesting birds and mammals. It grows so fast that it easily escapes planted areas and invades agricultural lands and natural areas.

Why It's a Problem

- Smothers vegetation in fields, pastures, roadsides, woodlands, and forests
- Shades out native plants
- Prevents forest regeneration
- Reduces biodiversity



What Does It Look Like?



Fruits are small rose hips and often remain on the stems throughout winter.



Leaves are oval and have serrated edges. They connect to the stem with a "stipule" that grows at the base of each compound leaf. The fringed stipule is an important identifying characteristic that distinguishes the multiflora rose from other wild roses.



Abundant fragrant flowers form in mid to late spring. With color that ranges from white to slightly pink, the blooms are easily spotted on multiflora rose's arching or climbing canes (stems).



Be careful of the stiff, curved thorns on the canes!

How Do I Control It?

- Small populations of young plants can be pulled by hand, but make sure to protect yourself against the thorns. Remove all of the roots to prevent resprouting
- Basal bark and cut stump treatments can be utilized year-round.
- Foliar herbicide treatment is best suited from late spring to early fall.



The cut stump method involves cutting down the plant and then applying herbicide on the stump to prevent regrowth.

Additional Information

Blue Ridge PRISM

-- [Multiflora Rose fact sheet](#)

-- [Resources on Invasive Plants](#)



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