MULTIFLORA ROSE

invasive fact sheet

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Multiflora rose invades Vermont's forests and fields. The plants are **easy to see in early summer** when their fragrant white to pink flowers appear.

The Problem

- Multiflora rose *(Rosa multiflora)* can form impenetrable thickets that exclude native plant species.
- Birds eat the fruits and disperse the seeds which are still viable after passing through the digestive tract.
- Arching canes that reach the ground can take root and form new plants.
- This plant has a wide tolerance of soil, moisture, and light conditions. It has the ability to thrive in dense woods, open fields, prairies, pastures, and is readily found along stream banks and roadsides.
- Seed bank can remain viable for 10-20 years creating the need for a long-term management plan.

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Recognize Multiflora rose

red fruits (rose hips)

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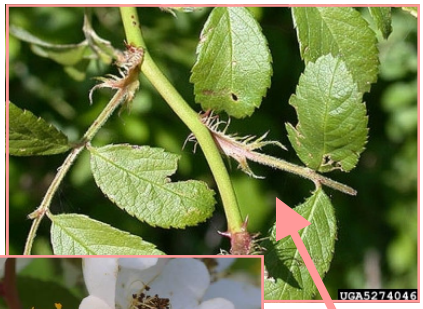

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fringed stipules

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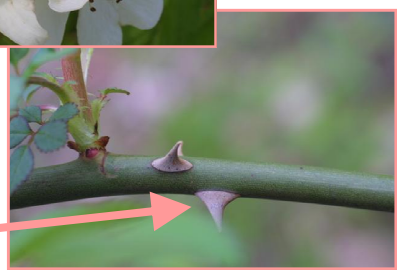
fragrant flowers

curved thorns



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The Nature Conservancy, Montpelier, Vermont
802-229-4425 x120

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Remove

Mechanical removal:

- Young plants can be pulled by hand.
- Frequent, repeated cutting or mowing at the rate of three to six times per growing season, for two to four years, has been shown to be effective in achieving high mortality of multiflora rose.
- In high quality natural communities, cutting of individual plants is preferred to site mowing to minimize habitat disturbance.

Chemical removal:

Cut stump: Cut the plant 4 inches above the ground. Use a drip bottle to apply an 18-21% glyphosate solution to the stump within one hour of cutting. This is best done in late summer through winter when plants are transporting resources to their root systems.

Low volume foliar spray: This method is used for dense populations and best left to a contractor. Thoroughly wet all leaves with an herbicide in water with a surfactant as follows: while in bloom—Escort® at 1 ounce per acre (0.2 dry ounces per 3-gallon mix); Aug-Oct—Arsenal AC® as 1% solution (4 oz per 3-gallon mix) or Escort® at 1 oz per acre (0.2 dry oz per 3-gallon mix); May-Oct—repeated applications of a glyphosate herbicide as a 2% solution in water (8 oz per 3-gallon mix), a less effective treatment that has no soil activity to damage surrounding plants. In order to avoid drift to native plants, spray only on calm days.

Safe Chemical Application

√ ***Develop an Integrated Plant Management approach.*** Use chemical control as only ONE piece of your prevention and management strategy.

√ ***The label found on the herbicide container is the law.*** It indicates the concentrations to use, what protective clothing to wear, how to apply the product, and what environmental and human health hazards are associated with the chemical.

√ ***Use aquatic formulations within 10 feet of water.*** You need a permit to apply herbicides in wetlands. You cannot apply herbicides within 100 feet of a wellhead. Contact VT DEC at 802-241-3761 for more information.

√ ***You need to be certified to apply herbicides on land that you do not own.***

√ ***Hire a contractor to manage large infestations.*** A good contractor will have the knowledge to help create an effective management plan. For a list of certified contractors, contact the VT Department of

Replant

Non-invasive Alternatives

© S&A. Wasowski, TWC

climbing prairie rose
Rosa setigera

© S&A. Wasowski, TWC

purple-flowering raspberry
Rubus odoratus

© S&A. Wasowski, TWC

chokecherry
Prunus virginiana

Wise On Weeds!

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