



BRANDYWINE
CONSERVANCY

Preserving Our
Land & Water

JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE

(*Lonicera japonica*)

Japanese honeysuckle **grows vigorously** and **can smother vegetation and girdle shrubs and small trees** as it climbs. Japanese honeysuckle poses a threat to native plants growing in forest, stream, field, wetland edge habitats, and open woods.

IDENTIFY

JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE | Chris Evans, Illinois Wildlife Action Plan, Bugwood.org



CHARACTERISTICS

Japanese honeysuckle is a perennial vine that climbs by twisting itself around trunks and vertical structures. The vine has a woody stem and is evergreen. Leaves are opposite and oval, and occur in pairs along the stem. The stems and leaves are sometimes covered in soft hairs. The flowers are tubular and white to pink, turning yellow with age. The flowers are very fragrant, occurring in pairs (from April to August). The oval berries become black when ripe and are less than a quarter-inch in diameter. Japanese honeysuckle reproduces by seed as well as through vegetative means.

WHERE FROM

A native of Japan and Korea, Japanese honeysuckle was introduced to the United States in the mid-1800s. It was introduced as an ornamental, for erosion control, and for wildlife.



JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE FLOWERS
Troy Evans,
Great Smoky Mountains National Park,
Bugwood.org

WHERE FOUND

Japanese honeysuckle can be found in 38 states in the U.S. and grows in many different conditions from open fields to forest.



JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE FOLIAGE
Chuck Bargeron, University of Georgia,
Bugwood.org



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Chuck Bargeron, University of Georgia,
Bugwood.org

CONTROL

CHEMICAL METHOD

The systemic herbicide glyphosate (e.g. *Roundup*) is effective in controlling Japanese honeysuckle. Mixing the herbicide with a surfactant can help the spray adhere to the plant.

MANUAL METHOD

Small plants can be pulled when the soil is moist. Mowing suppresses growth in open areas.

REMEMBER

When removing,
be careful
not to remove
or destroy
desirable species.

(*Read and follow all
herbicide labels carefully
before use.*)

SOURCES
U.S. Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service, Plant Conservation Alliance (www.nps.gov/plants/)
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, National Agricultural Library (www.invasivepeciesinfo.gov/)
The Nature Conservancy (www.tnc.org/)
Pennsylvania Dept. of Conservation of Natural Resources (www.dcnr.state.pa.us/)