



BRANDYWINE
CONSERVANCY

Preserving Our
Land & Water

PORCELAIN BERRY

(Ampelopsis
brevipedunculata)

The vines of porcelain berry are **aggressive**, growing quickly to form large mats over existing vegetation. It easily climbs up and around trees, **shading out shrubs and seedlings of native plants**.

IDENTIFY



PORCELAIN BERRY | Brandywine Conservancy

CHARACTERISTICS

Porcelain berry is a woody, perennial vine which can grow up to 20 feet or more, and closely resembles native grapevine. The center, or pith, is white. Its bark has lenticels (light colored dots) and will not peel, unlike grape bark which does not have lenticels and will peel or shred. It uses non-adhesive tendrils to climb. Leaves are alternate and broadly ovate with a heart-shaped base. Leaves have 3–5 lobes and toothed margins. Porcelain berry produces small, hard berries varying in color from pale violet to green, to a bright blue. All three berry colors may appear at the same time on a single plant.

WHERE FROM

Native to Japan and China, this plant was brought to North America in 1870 as an ornamental and landscaping plant.



PORCELAIN BERRY FRUITS
James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service,
Bugwood.org

WHERE FOUND

Porcelain berry can be found in southern New England, the Mid-Atlantic and parts of the South and Midwest. It can be found in varying conditions, from dry to moist areas, along forest edges and streams, as well as areas receiving full sunlight to partial shade. Porcelain berry is not tolerant of fully shaded sites or wet soils.



PORCELAIN BERRY FOLIAGE
Karan A. Rawlins, University of Georgia,
Bugwood.org



PORCELAIN BERRY SEEDLINGS
Leslie J. Mehrhoff,
University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

CONTROL

CHEMICAL METHOD

Although pulling will suffice for smaller plants, an application of glyphosate (e.g., *Roundup*) to the cut stump of larger vines or to the leaves is also effective.

MANUAL METHOD

Pull young vines out of the ground during any season, carefully making sure to remove root stock. Bag and dispose of porcelain berry to avoid seeds taking root.

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.invasivespeciesinfo.gov)
The Nature Conservancy (www.tnc.org)
Pennsylvania Dept. of Conservation of Natural Resources (www.dcnr.state.pa.us)