



BRANDYWINE
CONSERVANCY

Preserving Our
Land & Water

IDENTIFY

WINEBERRY | Brandywine Conservancy



WINEBERRY

(*Rubus phoenicolasius*
Maxim)

Wineberry is a vigorous grower and can **form dense thickets** covering large areas and **displace many native plants** in the process. Wineberry poses a threat to native plants growing in forest, stream, field, wetlands, edge habitats and open woods.

CHARACTERISTICS

Wineberry is in the *Rubus* family, the same family to which blackberry and raspberry belong. The upright and arching stems can grow to a length of 9 feet and are covered in small thorns and reddish hairs, which give the appearance of red stems from afar. Leaves consist of 3 heart-shaped, serrated leaflets with purplish veins and are fuzzy on the underside. The raspberry-like fruit, ripening in June and July, is edible. Wineberry reproduces by seed as well as through vegetative means including “root buds” and can sprout new plants wherever the stem touches the soil.

WHERE FROM

A native of Japan, Korea and China, wineberry was introduced to the U.S. in 1890 to help in the genetic tailoring of the other *Rubus* cultivars. Although it has some desirable and useful qualities, wineberry is considered a pest of agricultural and natural systems due to its invasive and aggressive nature.

WHERE FOUND

Although wineberry has a range from New England and eastern Canada southward to North Carolina and westward to Michigan, it is considered an invasive plant in many states including Pennsylvania. It prefers moist conditions and ample sunlight, and is often found along the edge of woodlands and in hedgerows.



WINEBERRY FRUITS
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WINEBERRY FLOWERS
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WINEBERRY STEM
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WINEBERRY FOLIAGE
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CONTROL

CHEMICAL METHOD

Systemic herbicides such as glyphosate and triclopyr should be applied directly to the cane and leaves. The herbicide can be mixed with a surfactant to help it adhere to the plant.

MANUAL METHOD

Using a 4-tong spading fork can be an effective way to remove wineberry plants, especially if done when the soil is moist and if all of the roots and stem fragments are removed. Any berries should be bagged and disposed of to lessen the potential of re-seeding.

REMEMBER

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

REPLANT

Once eradicated in an area, be sure to restore by planting native 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)