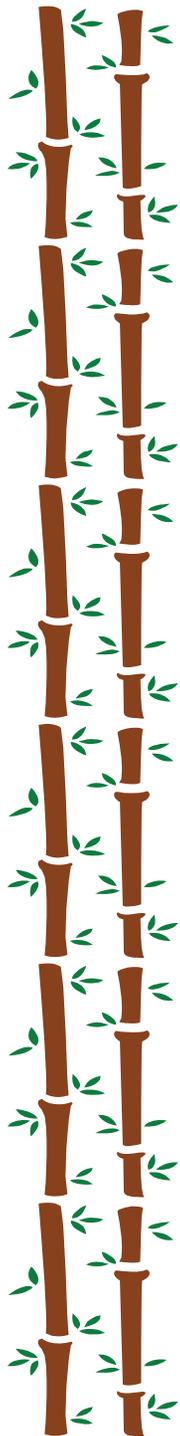


The Alien Plant Working Group's
2010 INVASIVE PLANT CALENDAR
TAKES A LOOK AT IDENTITY THEFT





Plant Conservation Alliance's Alien Plant Working Group

Weeds Gone Wild are plants introduced by people into new areas outside their native ranges which have become weedy or "invasive" in natural habitats. Introduced plants are also referred to as alien, exotic, non-native, and non-indigenous. Native plants occur in a particular habitat and ecosystem as a result of natural forces, excluding human activities. Invasive plants cause harm when they crowd out native species by competing for light, water, nutrients, and soil, and changing the composition of native plant communities which has major consequences for native wildlife. Invasive plants also change soil chemistry, hydrology and fire regimes resulting in significant environmental and economic damage. They reproduce and spread rapidly because they lack the natural controls present in their native lands.

For more information on the identification and management of invasive plants affecting natural areas from the aquatic to the terrestrial, including fact sheets for some of the species in this calendar, take a look at the website (<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>).

Weeds Gone Wild: Alien Plant Invaders of Natural Areas is a web-based project of the Alien Plant Working Group that provides information for the general public, land managers, researchers, and others on the serious threat and impacts of invasive alien plants to the native flora, fauna, and natural ecosystems of the United States. The site provides:

- * Illustrated fact sheets with control options
- * Background on the problem including terminology
- * Link to APWG's invasive plant list for the United States (hosted by invasive.org)
- * Other useful invasive species website links
- * And much more!

The Alien Plant Working Group provides public education, invasive plant management advice, networking, regional support, and policy guidance. APWG works with a variety of organizations across the United States and internationally. If you would like to get involved with APWG, please join our discussion list (instructions on the website) or send an email to the Alien Plant Working Group Chairperson, Jil Swearingen (jil_swearingen@nps.gov).

IDENTITY THEFT

EUROPEAN STINGING NETTLE

JANUARY 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Photo by: Theodore Webster, USDA Agricultural Research Service, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Urtica dioica aka European Stinging Nettle

DESCRIPTION:

European Stinging Nettle is an herbaceous perennial that forms large dense patches which expand by sending up new shoots from spreading underground rhizomes. As the name implies, stinging nettle plants are covered with minute needle-like stinging hairs that can cause a painful burning sensation lasting many hours. Plants are upright, unbranched and can grow to 6 feet in height. Leaves are 2 to 6 inches long, have serrated margins and are arranged in pairs along the stem. Male and female flowers occur on separate plants. It is native to Africa, Asia and Europe.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIM:

Smallspike False Nettle (*Boehmeria cylindrica*)

EUROPEAN STINGING NETTLE HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

District of Columbia, Maryland

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

IDENTITY THEFT

GIANT REED



Photo by: John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:
Arundo donax aka Giant Reed

DESCRIPTION:
 Giant Reed is a perennial grass that resembles corn and can grow to over 20' tall. Leaves are 1/2-1 1/2' long and 1-2" wide. Flowers are borne in 2' long plume-like panicles in late summer. A native of the Mediterranean, it spreads by creeping rootstocks.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIM:
 Wild Cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*)

GIANT REED HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:
 AR, AZ, CA, FL, GA, IL, KY, LA, MD, MO, MS, NC, NM, NV, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV

ALSO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE EXOTIC INVASIVES:
Phragmites australis aka Common Reed and *Bambusa vulgaris* aka Common Bamboo

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

FEBRUARY 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

IDENTITY THEFT

WINE RASPBERRY



Photo by: Troy Evans, Eastern Kentucky Univ., invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Rubus phoenicolasius aka Wine Raspberry

DESCRIPTION:

Wine Raspberry has long stems growing up to 9 feet, covered with distinctive glandular red hairs & small spines. Leaves have three leaflets with toothed margins & white undersides. Small greenish flowers with white petals & reddish hairs are in spring; edible bright red raspberries ripen in summer.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIMS:

Native Roses (*Rosa* sp.) and Native Raspberries (*Rubus* sp.)

WINE RASPBERRY HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

AR, CT, CO, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, WV

ALSO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE EXOTIC INVASIVES:

Rosa multiflora aka Multiflora Rose

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

MARCH 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2010

IDENTITY THEFT



Photo by: James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Ailanthus altissima aka Tree-of-Heaven

DESCRIPTION:

Tree-of-Heaven is a dioecious, deciduous tree with large, alternate, compound leaves and smooth pale gray bark that can grow to 80 feet. Leaves are 1-4 feet long with 10-41 smaller leaflets each with one or more glandular teeth along the lower margins. Large clusters of yellow-green flowers are borne in early summer. Fruits are winged, twisted samaras. All parts of the tree have a nutty or burned nut odor.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIMS:

Staghorn Sumac (*Rhus typhina*); Ash (*Fraxinus* sp.); Walnut, Pecan & Butternut (*Juglans* sp.); and Hickory (*Carya* sp.)

TREE-OF-HEAVEN HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, FL, HI, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MO, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, WA, WI, WV

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

TREE-OF-HEAVEN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
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MAY 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

IDENTITY THEFT



Photo by: Michael Rasy, Univ. of Alaska, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Centaurea stoebe ssp. *micranthos* aka Spotted Knapweed

DESCRIPTION:

Spotted knapweed is an herbaceous flowering plant. Flowering stems are 1-4' tall and branched with purple to pink flowers.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIMS:

American Star-Thistle (*Centaurea americana*); Rothrock's Knapweed (*Centaurea rothrockii*); Tall Thistle (*Cirsium altissimum*); and Soft Thistle (*Cirsium carolinianum*)

SPOTTED KNAPWEED HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, KY, ID, IL, MA, MD, MI, MN, MT, NC, NJ, NY, OR, PA, SD, UT, VA, WA, WI, WV, WY

ALSO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE EXOTIC INVASIVES:

Cirsium arvense aka Canada Thistle, *Centaurea cyanus* aka Garden Corn Flower, and *Centaurea montana* aka Perennial Cornflower

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

SPOTTED KNAPWEED

JUNE 2010

IDENTITY THEFT



Photo by: David J. Moorhead, Univ. of Georgia, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATORS:

Bambusa, *Phyllostachys*, and *Pseudosasa* aka 'Exotic Bamboos'

DESCRIPTION:

Exotic bamboos are woody grasses with slender to stout, jointed stems that grow 6 to 40 feet or more tall. The leaves are often bunched together in fan-like clusters of lance-shaped blades. They are vigorous growing plants that quickly spread beyond their original planting site. Bamboos colonize by rhizomes and resprouting from cut stems, rapidly expanding infestations with disturbance.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIM:

Wild Cane (*Arundinaria gigantea*)

EXOTIC BAMBOOS HAVE BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

District of Columbia, Georgia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

EXOTIC BAMBOOS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

JULY 2010

IDENTITY THEFT

JAPANESE ANGELICA



Photo by: John M. Randall, The Nature Conservancy, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Aralia elata aka Japanese Angelica

DESCRIPTION:

Japanese Angelica is a tall upright branching shrub growing 20-40 feet in height and 15-30 feet wide with stems are covered in spines. Large dark green, compound leaves are 2-4 feet long, bi- or tri-pinnately compound and alternate along on the stem. The leaflets are pubescent beneath and lateral veins run to the end of the teeth on the leaf margins. In mid-summer, creamy white flowers are produced in large, showy, branching panicles up to 2 feet in length. Small black purple berries appear in late summer.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIM:

Devil's Walkingstick (*Aralia spinosa*)

JAPANESE ANGELICA HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AUGUST 2010

IDENTITY THEFT



Photo by: Barry Rice, sarracenia.com, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATORS:

Tamarix species aka Salt Cedars or Tamarisks

DESCRIPTION:

Most Salt Cedars are deciduous shrubs or small trees with scale-like overlapping gray-green foliage growing to 12-15' in height and forming dense thickets. The leaves are often encrusted with salt secretions. The bark of young branches is smooth and reddish-brown. As the plants age, the bark becomes brownish-purple, ridged & furrowed. From March to September, large numbers of pink to white flowers appear in dense masses at branch tips. There are 5 invasive species, from Africa, Asia, & Europe.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIMS:

Cedars & Junipers (*Juniperus* sp.)

SALT CEDARS HAVE BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

AR, AZ, CA, CO, GA, IN, KS, LA, MT, NC, ND, NM, NV, OK, OR, SC, SD, TX, UT, WA, WY

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

SALT CEDARS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SEPTEMBER 2010

IDENTITY THEFT

CHINESE WISTERIA



Photo by: Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Wisteria sinensis aka Chinese Wisteria

DESCRIPTION:

Chinese wisteria is a woody ornamental vine that climb trees, twining clockwise. Compound alternate leaves are 6-10" long with 7-13 smaller leaflets. Showy, fragrant, pendulous purple flowers 6-8" long and 3-4" wide occur mid-April to early May. Fruit is a velvety brown seed pod. It is native to China.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIMS:

American Wisteria (*Wisteria frutescens*) which also twines clockwise and Trumpet Honeysuckle (*Campsis radicans*)

CHINESE WISTERIA HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

DC, FL, GA, HI, IL, KY, LA, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, PA, SC, TN, VA

ALSO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE EXOTIC INVASIVES:

Wisteria floribunda aka Japanese Wisteria (counter-clockwise)

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

OCTOBER 2010

IDENTITY THEFT



Photo by: Terry English, USDA APHIS PPQ, invasive.org

GIANT HOGWEED

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Heracleum mantegazzianum aka Giant Hogweed

DESCRIPTION:

Giant Hogweed is a tall herbaceous biennial plant and federal noxious weed with poisonous sap that can cause painful burning if touched. Up to 20 feet tall, it has thick hollow purple-blotched stems with coarse hairs. Leaves are deeply lobed, sharply pointed and up to 5 feet across. White flowers are borne in large umbrella-like clusters. APPREHEND WITH PROTECTION!

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIM:

Common Cowparsnip (*Heracleum maximum*)

GIANT HOGWEED HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

DC, ME, OR, NY, PA, WA

ALSO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE EXOTIC INVASIVES:

Conium maculatum aka Poison Hemlock

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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NOVEMBER 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

IDENTITY THEFT



Photo by: Ted Bodner, Southern Weed Science Society, invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Rosa multiflora aka Multiflora Rose

DESCRIPTION:

Multiflora Rose is a thorny perennial shrub with green arching stems and alternate leaves divided into 5-9 leaflets with serrate margins. Each leaf stalk base bears a pair of fringed bracts. Clusters of showy, fragrant, white to pink flowers about an inch across become small red fruits or rose hips.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIMS:

Native Roses (*Rosa* sp.) and Native Raspberries (*Rubus* sp.)

MULTIFLORA ROSE HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, DE, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV

ALSO BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE EXOTIC INVASIVES:

Rubus phoenicolasius aka Wine Raspberry

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

MULTIFLORA ROSE

DECEMBER 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

IDENTITY THEFT



Photo by: David Cappaert, Michigan State Univ., invasive.org

PCA-ALIEN PLANT WORKING GROUP INVASIVE PLANT ALERT

THE PERPETRATOR:

Alliaria petiolata aka Garlic Mustard

DESCRIPTION:

Garlic Mustard is a cool season biennial herb with stalked, triangular to heart-shaped, coarsely toothed leaves that give off an odor of garlic when crushed. First-year plants appear as a rosette of green leaves close to the ground. Flowering plants of garlic mustard reach from 2 to 3½ feet in height and produce buttonlike clusters of small white 4-petaled flowers. Elongate tan seeds are produced in erect slender pods.

THE LOOK-ALIKE NATIVE PLANT VICTIMS:

Hairy Sweet Cicely (*Osmorhiza claytonii*); Early Saxifrage (*Saxifraga virginiana*); and Toothworts (*Cardamine* sp.)

GARLIC MUSTARD HAS BEEN CAUGHT INVADING IN:

AK, CT, DC, DE, GA, IA, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, TN, VA, VT, WI, WV

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien>

GARLIC MUSTARD