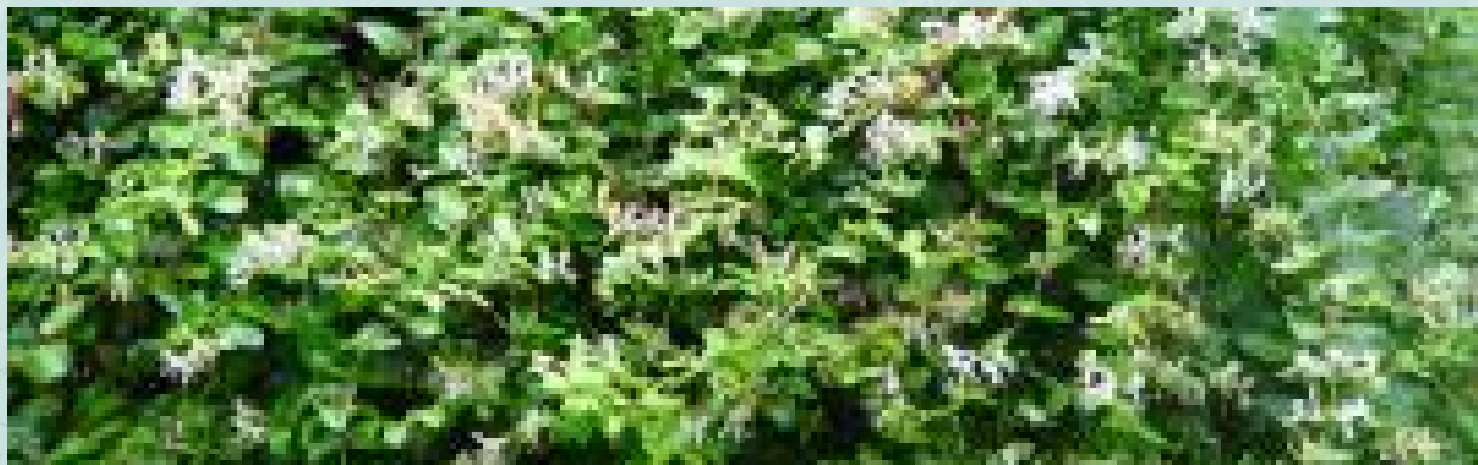


JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE

Lonicera japonica

Japanese honeysuckle is an aggressive scrambling shrub. It has become a serious weed in moist gullies, forests and bushland.



HOW DOES THIS WEED AFFECT YOU?

Japanese honeysuckle is a robust scrambler or climber that smothers and out-competes native vegetation and prevents the regeneration of native species. It has become a serious weed in moist gullies, forests and bushland. Invasion and establishment of exotic vines and scramblers has been identified as a key threatening process for many vulnerable and endangered species in NSW. Japanese honey suckle is one of the main species listed as a threat.

WHERE IS IT FOUND?

Japanese honeysuckle has naturalised in eastern parts of NSW and is especially common in the Greater Sydney region.

It is native plant in eastern Asia.

Human poisoning

Japanese honeysuckle is toxic to humans, causing discomfort and irritation but is not life threatening. The berries and leaves are poisonous if ingested, causing gastro-intestinal irritation. It is also a skin irritant causing rashes on contact with the plant.

DESCRIPTION

Japanese honeysuckle is a semi-deciduous shrub, climbing or scrambling to 10 m high. The leaves are opposite along the stem, oblong to oval shaped and up to 8 cm long and 4 cm wide. The fragrant white flowers are in pairs, with two lips. The upper lip has 4 lobes. The fruit are oval shaped, black when ripe and up to 1 cm long.

Flowers paired; peduncle 5–50 mm long, bracts 5–20 mm long, green. Flowers white, often purplish outside, turning yellowish, fragrant. Corolla bilabiate, 30–50 mm long, upper lip irregularly 4-lobed.

Fruit ovoid, 6–10 mm long, shiny black when mature; seeds brown c. 3mm long.



HOW DOES IT SPREAD?

- Japanese Honeysuckle spreads by bird-dispersed seeds and by long vegetative runners that can form roots when they contact the ground.
- Control of Japanese Honeysuckle requires an integrated program utilising various methods including manual removal, mowing or grazing, burning and herbicide application.

CONTROL

Non-chemical control: Manual removal can be used for seedlings and small infestations but is not recommended for large infestations where it is likely to be ineffective and lead to considerable soil disturbance and further spread (Muyt 2001). Mowing and grazing control its spread but do not eradicate it.

Chemical control: A range of herbicide treatments can be used including painting root crowns after stems have been cut back, using Drill-Fill and Stem-Scrape methods to treat larger climbing stems and spraying with selective and non-selective herbicides. Follow-up treatments are often required because plants commonly re-shoot (Muyt 2001).



LOOK A LIKES

Slender Grape (Cayratia Clematidea)



For more info please visit:

<https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/JapaneseHoneysuckle>

DECLARATION & BIOSECURITY DUTY

General Biosecurity Duty

All pest plants are regulated with a general biosecurity duty to prevent, eliminate or minimise any biosecurity risk they may pose. Any person who deals with any plant, who knows (or ought to know) of any biosecurity risk, has a duty to ensure the risk is prevented, eliminated or minimised, so far as is reasonably practicable.

Source: <https://weeds.dpi.nsw.gov.au/Weeds/Japonesehoneysuckle>