

Persicaria perfoliata, Mile-A-Minute Vine

Mile-A-Minute Vine was introduced in Pennsylvania where it existed for about 40 years locally before its population exploded. Currently, populations are found in the Lower Hudson PRISM and the very edge of CRISP.

Population Status: Confirmed– Albany Co. Historical- Saratoga Co.

Description: The petioles and stems of this plant have recurved hooks which don't necessarily hurt but can cause itching and discomfort. The plant begins to form green fruits that become metallic blue as they mature from a rounded ocrea structure in the late summer months. The leaves are almost precisely triangular as opposed to chordate and the stems are identifiably red in color. Sometimes the plant will have round holes in it from weevil browse.

Control: Manual pulls can be attempted before the plant goes to seed. If the plant is in seed, go ahead and bag (or eat, they're edible) the seeds.

Look-alikes: Halberd-Leaved Tearthumb (native) has arrow shaped leaves as opposed to triangular.

Flower Time and Description: Mile-a-minute has small, white flowers that are at the ocrea where the fruit is later formed.

