

CNIPM

Invasive Plants Descriptions and Photos

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Aegopodium podagraria

Common names; Bishop's goutweed, Bishops' weed, Gout weed, Ground elder, Herb gerard, Snow on the mountain



Leaves:

Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics:

Deciduous

Leaf Color:

Blue

Green

Variegated

White

Leaf Type:

Compound (Pinnately , Bipinnately, Palmately)

Leaf Arrangement:

Alternate

Leaf Shape:

Cordate

Ovate

Leaf Margin:

Serrate

Hairs Present:

No

Leaf Description:

Medium, green, carrot-scented leaves on a fleshy stalk is attached to an underground stem (rhizome). Its three-parted leaflet is divided into three sub-leaflets. The foliage can be variegated. The variegated form has bluish-green leaves, with creamy white margins.

Figure 1: Aegopodium podagraria leaves photo and leaf description

Further reading; ([NCSU n.d.a](#))

Celastrus orbiculatus

Common names; Asian bittersweet, Chinese bittersweet, Oriental bittersweet



Leaves:

Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics:

Deciduous

Leaf Color:

Green

Leaf Feel:

Glossy

Deciduous Leaf Fall Color:

Gold/Yellow

Leaf Type:

Simple

Leaf Arrangement:

Alternate

Leaf Shape:

Orbicular

Ovate

Leaf Margin:

Dentate

Hairs Present:

Yes

Leaf Length:

3-6 inches

Leaf Width:

1-3 inches

Leaf Description:

Simple, alternate 2"-5" long and 1 1/2"-3" wide. Round to oval and glossy with round or tapered tips and rounded toothed margins. The veins on the undersides may have sparse hairs and the petiole is 3/4" long. Olive green in spring and summer, light yellow fall foliage.

Figure 2: Celastrus orbiculatus leaves photo and leaf description

Further reading; ([NCSU n.d.b](#))

Hedera helix

Common names; Algerian ivy, Baltic ivy, Branching ivy, California ivy, Common ivy, English ivy, Glacier ivy, Needlepoint ivy, Sweetheart ivy

Leaf Color: Green Variegated White	
Leaf Feel: Glossy	
Leaf Value To Gardener: Long-lasting	
Leaf Type: Simple	
Leaf Arrangement: Alternate	
Leaf Shape: Palmasect	
Leaf Margin: Entire Lobed	
Hairs Present: No	
Leaf Length: 1-3 inches	
Leaf Width: 1-3 inches	
Leaf Description: Evergreen, 3-5 palmate lobes with palmate venation when juvenile, ovate to rhombic on mature/adult branches borne well off the ground; leaves dark green above and lustrous, prominently whitish-gray becoming lighter green with age borne adjacent to major veins. Leaves are typically 4 inches long × 2.5 to 5 inches wide.	
	Stem:
	Stem Color: Brown/Copper Green
	Stem Is Aromatic: No
	Stem Buds: Smooth/Hairless
	Stem Bud Terminal: Only 1 terminal bud, smaller than side buds
	Stem Cross Section: Round
	Stem Form: Straight
	Stem Description: Produces adventitious roots for climbing. Individual English ivy plants may have both juvenile and adult stems. The juvenile phase typically forms the ground cover. Juvenile English ivy begins to climb when vertical structure is available (e.g., trees, shrubs, buildings, utility poles), and vertical stems transition to the adult phase.

Figure 3: Hedera helix leaf description, and stem description.

Hedera Helix continued...



Poisonous to Humans:

Poison Severity:

Medium

Poison Symptoms:

Contact with plant cell sap causes severe skin irritation with redness, itching, and blisters. Ingestion of berries causes burning sensation in the throat. Ingestion of leaves can result in delirium, stupor, convulsions, hallucinations, fever and rash, vomiting, abdominal pain, hypersalivation, and diarrhea. Foliage is more toxic than berries. English ivy contains allergens that may affect humans.

Poison Toxic Principle:

Triterpenoid saponins and polyacetylene compounds

Causes Contact Dermatitis:

Yes

Poison Part:

Bark

Flowers

Fruits

Leaves

Roots

Sap/Juice

Seeds

Stems

Figure 4: Hedera helix leaves photo, and poisonous characteristics.

Further reading; ([NCSU n.d.c](#))

Ligustrum japonicum

Common names; Amur, Common privet, Curlyleaf ligustrum, Japanese privet, Wax-leaf privet



Poisonous to Humans:

Poison Severity:

Medium

Poison Symptoms:

Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, weakness, Gastrointestinal upset (most common), incoordination, increased heart rate, death (rare), low blood pressure, cold and clammy skin possibly lasting 48 to 72 hours

Poison Toxic Principle:

Glycosides: syringin (ligustrin), a glycoside; shikimic acid (lowest toxic dose 4,000mg); and others

Causes Contact Dermatitis:

No

Poison Part:

Fruits

Leaves

Figure 5: Ligustrum japonica leaves photo and poisonous characteristics.

Ligustrum japonicum continued...

Leaves:	
Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics: Broadleaf Evergreen	
Leaf Color: Green	
Leaf Feel: Smooth	
Leaf Type: Simple	
Leaf Arrangement: Opposite	
Leaf Shape: Oblong Ovate	
Leaf Margin: Entire	
Hairs Present: No	
Leaf Length: 3-6 inches	
Leaf Description: Leaves are opposite, simple, broad-ovate to ovate-oblong, entire, coriaceous, glabrous, and dark green in color. They have 4-5 pairs of indistinct raised veins on the undersurface and grow 2-4" long.	
Stem:	
Stem Color: Gray/Silver	
Stem Is Aromatic: No	
Stem Lenticels: Conspicuous	
Stem Surface: Smooth (glabrous)	
Stem Description: Twigs are smooth, gray, and covered with large lenticels.	

Figure 6: *Ligustrum japonica* leaf description and stem description.

Further reading; ([NCSU n.d.d](#))

Pueraria montana and *Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*

Common names; Kudzu, Japanese arrowroot, Kudzu bean, Kudzu hemp, Kudzu vine



Edibility:

The roots may be cooked and used to make into noodles, a thickening agent for soups, or gelatin. The flowers may be cooked or made into pickles. The stems and young leaves are eaten as a vegetable and are very nutritious. The taste is reportedly between a bean and pea.

Figure 7: *Pueraria montana* leaves photo and edibility description of Kudzu.

Pueraria montana and *Pueraria montana* var. *lobata* continued...

Leaves:	
Leaf Color: Green	
Deciduous Leaf Fall Color: Brown/Copper	
Leaf Type: Compound (Pinnately , Bipinnately, Palmately)	
Leaf Arrangement: Alternate	
Leaf Shape: Ovate	
Leaf Margin: Entire Lobed	
Hairs Present: Yes	
Leaf Length: 3-6 inches	
Leaf Width: 3-6 inches	
Leaf Description: The leaves are compound, alternate, and hairy on the upper and lower surfaces. Each leaf has a long petiole and three leaflets. The lateral leaves have two lobes, and the terminal leaves have three lobes.	
	Leaves:
	Woody Plant Leaf Characteristics: Deciduous
	Leaf Color: Gold/Yellow Gray/Silver Green
	Leaf Type: Compound (Pinnately , Bipinnately, Palmately)
	Hairs Present: No
	Leaf Length: > 6 inches
	Leaf Description: Pinately compound three leaflets, alternate grayish green or yellow 2"-8" long
	Stem:
	Stem Is Aromatic: No
	Stem Description: The long flexible stems are used in basket making.

Figure 8: *Pueraria montana* leaf description, and *Pueraria montana* var. *lobata* leaf and stem descriptions.

Further reading; ([NCSU n.d.e](#))

Reynoutria japonica

Common names; Asiatic knotweed, Donkey rhubarb, Fleeceflower, Huzhang, Japanese bamboo, Japanese knotweed, Mexican bamboo



Figure 9: Reynoutria japonica leaves photo.

Reynoutria japonica continued...

Leaves:	
Leaf Color: Green Red/Burgundy	
Leaf Type: Sheath Simple	
Leaf Arrangement: Alternate	
Leaf Shape: Deltoid Elliptical Subcordate	
Leaf Margin: Entire	
Hairs Present: No	
Leaf Length: 3-6 inches	
Leaf Description: 4 to 6 inches long and 2-4 inches wide broadly oval, to triangular, sharply pointed, alternate leaves with truncated bases and entire margins. Leaves are dark green on top and light green below with reddish veins. Where they meet the stem there is a sheath-like structure called an ochrea. New growth is red.	
	Stem:
	Stem Color: Brown/Copper Green Red/Burgundy
	Stem Is Aromatic: No
	Stem Cross Section: Round
	Stem Description: Stems are green to reddish-brown large, hollow, slightly ridged lengthwise, jointed and mottled. They resemble bamboo and remain after the plant has died back to the ground.

Figure 10: *Reynoutria japonica* leaf description and stem description.

Further reading; ([NCSU n.d.f](#))

Rosa multiflora

Common names; Multiflora rose



Figure 11: Rosa multiflora stipules photo.

Rosa multiflora continued...

Leaves:	
Leaf Color: Green	
Leaf Type: Compound (Pinnately , Bipinnately, Palmately)	
Leaf Arrangement: Alternate	
Leaf Shape: Oblong Ovate	
Leaf Margin: Serrate	
Hairs Present: No	
Leaf Length: 3-6 inches	
Leaf Width: 1-3 inches	
Leaf Description: Alternate odd-pinnate compound leaves with 5-11 leaflets with serrate margins. Leaflets are ovate 1/2"-2" long with acute (pointed) tips. Petioles have fringed stipules which distinguishes them from other roses.	
	Stem:
	Stem Color: Green Red/Burgundy
	Stem Is Aromatic: No
	Stem Cross Section: Round
	Stem Surface: Smooth (glabrous)
	Stem Description: Green to red arching canes

Figure 12: *Rosa multiflora* leaf description, and stem description.

Further reading; ([NCSU n.d.g](#))

References

- NCSU. (n.d.a). *Aegopodium podagraria* (bishop's goutweed, bishops' weed, bishopweed, gout weed, ground elder, herb gerard, snow on the mountain).
- NCSU. (n.d.b). *Celastrus orbiculatus* (asian bittersweet, chinese bittersweet, oriental bittersweet).
- NCSU. (n.d.c). *Hedera helix* (algerian ivy, baltic ivy, branching ivy, california ivy, common ivy, english ivy, glacier ivy, hahn's self branching english ivy, needlepoint ivy, sweetheart ivy).
- NCSU. (n.d.d). *Ligustrum japonicum* (amur, common privet, curlyleaf ligustrum, japanese privet, privet, wax-leaf privet).
- NCSU. (n.d.e). *Pueraria montana* (kudzu).
- NCSU. (n.d.f). *Reynoutria japonica* (asiatic knotweed, donkey rhubarb, fleeceflower, huzhang, japanese bamboo, japanese knotweed, mexican bamboo).
- NCSU. (n.d.g). *Rosa multiflora* (multiflora rose).