

JAPANESE HOPS

Humulus japonicus



Missouri Extension Photo

Mature Height	Vines up to 10 feet	Soil Type	Moist soils along streams
Mature Spread	Vine Colonies	Flower Color	Green with yellow glands
Mature Form	Vines, Dense mats	Foliage Color	Green
Growth Rate	Rapid in summer	Fall Color	Brown mats
Sun Exposure	Prefers full sun	Does not tolerate heavy shade	
Soil Moisture	Prefers moist		

Japanese hop or hops is a herbaceous, annual twining vine. It is shallow rooted but can climb to heights of 10 feet or more with the aid of downward pointing prickles. This prickles can be very irritating to the skin. The palmate leaves have 5 to 7 lobes. Male and female flowers are borne on separate plants. Male flowers are inconspicuous—female flowers are green drooping cone like structures. Plants can over take large areas of shrubs, open areas and small trees, completely shading out native plants especially, new bottomland tree seedlings. Generally found along streams. Spreads by seed that is moved by animals, humans, machinery and floodwaters. Japanese hop is easily pulled early in the season due to its shallow roots. Be sure to wear gloves. Cutting or mowing early in the spring is also an acceptable control. Pre and post emergent herbicide treatments are also effective when used according to label directions. Using preemergent herbicides is important to protect susceptible native plants or tree seedlings.



Purdue University Photo



Missouri State University Photo



National Park Service Photo



This fact sheet was developed by the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) with funding by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The CWMA consists of 27 western and central Indiana counties and strives to help land users identify and control invasive terrestrial plants through workshops, field days and other educational activities.

