



WILL YOU HELP US?

Volunteers and home owners are especially important to stopping the invasion and spread of this aggressive invasive plant. **WE NEED YOU!** Be an Invasive Detective. Use this guide to spot and report new patches of mile-a-minute in the Finger Lakes so we can halt the spread.

If you see a suspect infestation, follow these steps:

1) Document the Invasion

Take multiple pictures showing the size of the patch, fruit, shape of the leaves, and ocrea. Mark the location using GPS or known landmarks.

2) Report the Infestation

Use iMapinvasives.org to report the infestation or send pictures to FL-PRISM@gmail.com.

3) Stop the Spread

Mile-a-minute can be mechanically or chemically controlled. Controlling the plant before its fruit is carried off by birds is critical. Consider control efforts early in the growing season to ensure you stop the spread of this nasty invasive!

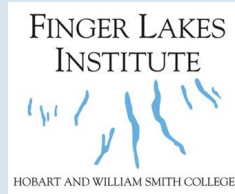


See it, mark it, report it,
pull it! Stop the invasion!

For more information,
visit our website:
fingerlakesinvasives.org

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This brochure was modified from the original brochure created by the Mile-a-Minute Project of the Hudson Valley. Content used with permission.

WANTED

MILE-A-MINUTE








Help Stop this
Invader

Mile-A-Minute Facts:

- Mile-a-minute vine (*Persicaria perfoliata*) is a highly aggressive, invasive plant from Asia.
- It is an annual vine that grows rapidly – up to 6 inches a day – and can reach over 25 feet long in one year!
- Prickly stems and leaves allow it to climb over surrounding vegetation and form dense, tangled mats that shade and choke underlying plants.
- The seeds remain viable for up to seven years.
- It is prevalent in downstate NY, but a new infestation found in Geneseo, Livingston County, is the first threat to the Finger Lakes.

Look-alikes

Some invasive plants look very similar to native ones. Mile-a-minute ALWAYS has broad, triangular shaped leaves, prickles, and ocrea (looks like a squirrel baffle). Use the chart and images below to help you identify this invasive.

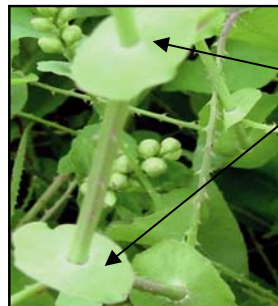
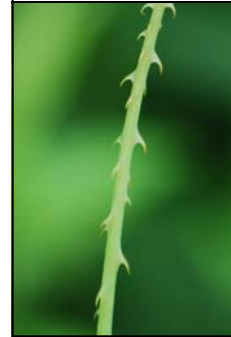
Similar Native Plants	Leaf Shape	Prickles	Ocrea
Mile-a-minute		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Halbred-leaved tear-thumb		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Climbing false buckwheat			
Hedge bindweed			
Arrowleaf tearthumb		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

How to Identify Mile-a-Minute Vine

Broad, triangular leaves,
1-3 inches wide.



Curved prickles
on stems.



Flat, round leaves
at nodes, called
ocrea.

Ocrea- (looks like
a squirrel baffle!)



**Iridescent berry-like
pale green fruits
that turn blue in
midsummer,
0.25" in diameter.**

Habitat

Mile-a-minute is usually found in open or disturbed areas, including roadsides, wetlands, river banks, fields, forest edges, and construction sites.

**See it, mark it, report it,
pull it!**



Biocontrol

To help fight the spread of mile-a-minute, a biocontrol program was started in 2009. The biocontrol agent is a tiny weevil, *Rhinoncomimus latipes*, that feeds solely on mile-a-minute. Thousands of weevils have been released at Stewart State Forest, NY and have had positive results.



The mile-a-minute biocontrol weevils are about the size of a pinhead.

You can tell when a weevil has been feeding by the "shotgun hole" pattern on the leaves (see below). Japanese beetles, which also consume the plant, generally leave larger, more irregularly shaped and randomly spaced holes.



The mile-a-minute biocontrol program is supported by the USDA and the Philip Alampi Beneficial Insect Laboratory. For more information about the weevils, or about biocontrol, please visit:

<http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/beneficialinsect.html>