



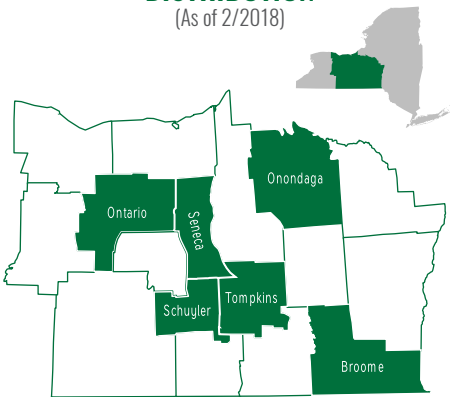
JAPANESE STILTGRASS

Microstegium vimineum
Origin: Asia

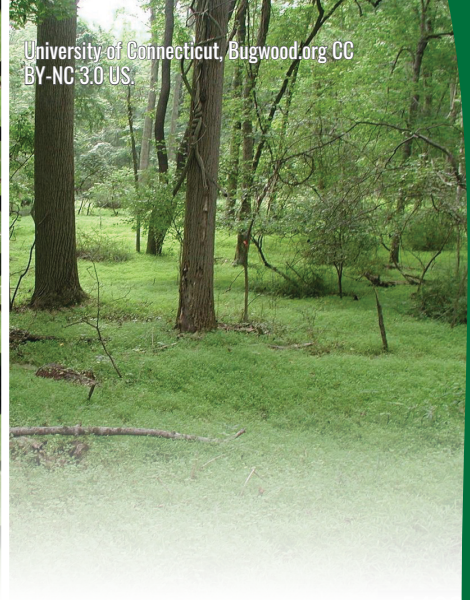
INVASIVE RANKING, NYS
Very High

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
Chemical
Mechanical
Physical
Prevention

DISTRIBUTION
(As of 2/2018)



www.fingerlakesinvasives.org



Japanese stiltgrass is an annual grass that is adapted to low light levels. It grows in a sprawling habit up to 1 m in height. The leaves are 3-13 cm long, asymmetrical with an off-center mid-rib, and are alternately arranged on the stalk. The leaves feel smooth, although each leaf has a line of silvery hairs on the upper surface. Japanese stiltgrass blooms in the late summer and early fall. Flowers are arranged in one or two delicate spikes at the top of each stem. Roots are weak, but can form at stem nodes.

HABITAT

Japanese stiltgrass grows in a wide range of habitats, from roadsides to undisturbed forest understory. It is most often associated with moist, acidic to neutral soils that are high in nitrogen. Japanese stiltgrass readily takes advantage of disturbed areas.

THREAT

Japanese stiltgrass grows densely, crowding out native vegetation. This results in decreased biodiversity and wildlife value, as well as disrupted ecosystem functioning.

MANAGEMENT

Prevent infestations by limiting disturbance and quickly remediating disturbed areas. Hand pulling, mowing, and soil tilling of small infestations can be effective before the seeds set in late summer. Herbicides can be used to control larger Japanese stiltgrass infestations.

REFERENCE - Japanese Stiltgrass. New York Invasive Species Information. Cornell University Cooperative Extension. http://www.nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive_detail&id=32