

CARP Factsheet

INVASIVE ALIEN PLANT: The Bird Buffet

COMMON NAME: Multiflora Rose, Rambler Rose

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Rosa multiflora*

PLANT TYPE: Perennial Shrub

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Form – shrub, forms dense thickets, arching stems

Height – generally forms a 1m to 2m thicket, but can climb trees, attaining great heights

Leaves – compound, alternate, finely toothed, 5-11 leaflets (generally 7 or 9)

Flowers – in clusters, white, small regular flowers, 5 petals

Fruit – rose hips, small, red, remaining on plant through winter

Blooms in – June and July

Other Features – can be distinguished from native roses by fringed bracts at base of each leaf stalk, and by arching stems

ORIGIN: Japan, Korea, and East China

INTRODUCED (1866) FOR: ornamental, erosion control, livestock fencing

HABITAT: wide tolerance of habitat types

MEANS OF SPREAD: bird-dispersed seed, and rooting of bent stems

PROBLEMS:

- very prolific seed has potential for long-range spread by birds, making control difficult

- difficult to eradicate thickets because it's hard to handle

IF YOU HAVE THIS PLANT ON YOUR PROPERTY:

- remove it promptly, and do not put it in your back yard composter (dry and burn, or regular garbage)

- hand cut or dig individual plants before they go to seed; larger infestations may require mechanized removal

- prolific seed production means you'll be pulling out seedlings for years to come!



Photos: Leaf – Chris Evans, University of Georgia, www.forestryimages.com, Fruit – Marika Godwin, Clean Annapolis River Project (CARP), Infestation – James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, www.forestryimages.com