

Fallopia japonica

JAPANESE KNOTWEED

Polygonaceae

Common Synonyms: *Polygonum cuspidatum*

FLEPPC Category: -

FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No

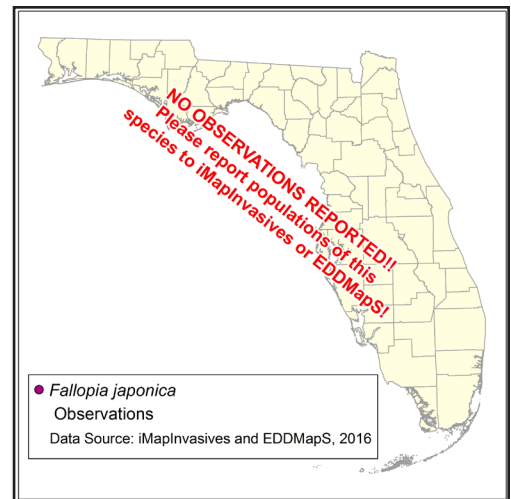
IFAS Assessment

North -
Central -
South -

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4a - 8b

Growth Habit: Shrub

Origin: Eastern Asia



Description: Perennial shrub with glabrous stems (mostly not branched) that ascend from a rhizomatous base; to 3 m tall, often forming a dense infestation. Stems reddish, hollow, swollen at nodes, and tend to zigzag slightly from node to node. Alternate leaves are oval-shaped 7-14 cm long and 5-12 cm wide with an entire margin. Axillary panicles with many 5-petaled, tiny, white flowers. Fruits shiny, brown, triangular nuts.

Habitat: River banks, wetlands, disturbed areas, railways, prefers open sunny habitats

Comments: No specimens from FL, closest in central GA. Present in most northern states and Canada. Climate could prevent naturalization in FL but good to monitor. Very fast growth. Predominantly reproduces vegetatively via rhizomes.

Florida Introduction Date: Introduced in US late 1800's; not established in Florida

Control Methods:

Chemical: Foliar (aquatic label glyphosate, Alberternst, and Böhmer), foliar (1% triclopyr amine mixed with 2% aquatic label glyphosate, Miller et al.), Foliar in aquatic sites (1% isopropylamine salt of Imazapyr mixed with an aquatic surfactant, Miller et al.), cut-stem (50% aquatic label glyphosate, Alberternst, and Böhmer). Fall applications are most effective.

**Follow herbicide labels: Only herbicides registered for application in water by EPA and FDACS may be applied to weeds growing in or near water.

Useful Resources:

- Alberternst, B. and H.J. Böhmer. 2011. NOBANIS – Invasive Alien Species Fact Sheet – *Fallopia japonica*. Online Database of the European Network on Invasive Alien Species – NOBANIS www.nobanis.org. Accessed on December 10, 2013.
- CABI. 2013. Japanese Knotweed Alliance. <http://www.cabi.org/japaneseknotweedalliance/default.aspx?site=139&page=52>. Accessed on December 10, 2013.
- Dave's Garden. 2013. PlantFiles: Variegated Japanese knotweed, Speckled Mexican bamboo, *Fallopia japonica*. <http://daves-garden.com/guides/pf/go/57523/>. Accessed on December 9, 2013.
- Miller, J.H., E.B. Chambliss, and N.J. Loewenstein. 2010. A Field Guide for the Identification of Invasive Plants in Southern Forests. U. S. Department of Agriculture, Southern Research Station. Asheville, NC.