Midwest Invasive Plant Network Update
The mission of the Midwest Invasive Plant Network is the reduce the impact of invasive plants in the Midwest.
MIPN Board of Directors

**Federal Agencies:**
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*Rachel Gagnon, Ontario Inv. Plant Counc.
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Debbie Maurer, Lake Co. Forest Preserves (IL)

**Researchers:**
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*Zach Lowe, Purdue University (IN)
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MIPN has moved!
Accomplishments 2008


Available for purchase, $6 each

**Discounts** offered for bulk orders and members
Accomplishments 2008

Available for purchase: $6 each

Discounts offered for pre-orders, bulk orders, and members
Accomplishments 2008

Available for purchase: $6 each

Discounts offered for pre-orders, bulk orders, and members

Japanese barberry *Berberis thunbergii*

Small, round, dense, spiny shrub, typically 2-3' tall, though it may grow up to 6' tall and 6' wide. The branches are reddish-brown, deeply grooved, somewhat zig-zag in form, and bear a single sharp spine at each node.

Leaves: Small, alternate, entire, and oval to spatulate. May be green, bluish-green, or dark reddish-purple, depending on the cultivar. Arranged in clusters above single spines.


Fruit & seeds: Small, bright red, oblong berries. Single or in clusters on narrow stalks. Mature in mid-summer and persist on shrub into winter. Dispersed by birds.

Roots: Spreads vegetatively through horizontal lower branches that root freely when they touch the ground. Roots are yellow inside.

Ecological threat:
- Japanese barberry forms dense stands in natural habitats including forests, woodlands, oak savannas, wetlands, pastures, and meadows. It prefers well-drained soils.
- It appears to alter soil pH and nitrate levels, creating conditions that are beneficial for its growth.
- White-tailed deer avoid browsing on Japanese barberry, preferring to feed on native plants, which gives barberry a competitive advantage.
- Japanese barberry was introduced from Japan around 1875. It is commonly planted for ornamental purposes, as well as for wildlife and erosion control. Some cultivars produce fewer seeds than others.
Accomplishments 2008

While shopping today, I noticed that you stock the following plants, which are invasive in Midwestern natural areas.

- Ailanthus altissima
- Bupleurum umbellatum
- Celastrus orbiculatus
- Eleagnus angustifolia
- Eleagnus umbellata
- Ligustrum obtusifolium
- Ligustrum vulgare
- Lonicera japonica
- Lonicera maackii

Please consider stopping the sale of these plants.

Name: ____________________ Date: ____________________

Note to Retailer:

The shopper who left this card is one of many Midwesterners who are concerned about the impact of invasive plants on natural areas. Some of these plants are still for sale through the nursery trade. To learn more about invasive plants (as well as safe landscaping alternatives) please visit our website at www.mipn.org. Thank you for your interest in stewarding our precious natural resources.

Midwest Invasive Plant Network

Landscape Alternatives for Invasive Plants of the Midwest
Accomplishments 2008

**KEEP A LOOKOUT** for New INVASIVE PLANTS in the Midwest!

These species could be spreading in your area. Early detection and eradication can prevent an invasion.

Current Midwest general distribution, including southern Ontario: Not Known, Isolated, Locally Abundant, Widespread.

To report a sighting, please contact: www.mipn.org/EDRRContacts.html

**KEEP A LOOK OUT**

for NEW AQUATIC INVASIVE PLANTS in the Midwest!

These species could be spreading in your area. Early detection and eradication can prevent an invasion.

To report a sighting, please contact: http://www.mipn.org/EDRRContacts.html

The maps show current reported distribution in the Midwest, including Ontario.

- Not known
- Isolated (single county reports)
- Locally abundant
- Widespread

Last updated July 2008

- Also sold in the aquatic plant trade
- See reverse side for species descriptions
Accomplishments 2008

Meeting to discuss the use of certified weed-free products in the Midwest at the Indiana Crop Improvement Center

Participants included staff from state Crop Improvement Associations, Departments of Natural Resources, and Departments of Transportation, as well NPS & USFS

Developed list of recommendations to improve production and utilization of weed-free products
Accomplishments 2008

Cooperative Weed Management Area Workshops
Accomplishments 2008

National Cooperative Weed Management Area Conference in Reno, NV, April 2008
➢ Presentations on-line at www.weedcenter.org

Joint Conference of the Natural Areas Association and National Association of Exotic Pest Plant Councils
➢ Presentations will be available on-line
Our mission is to reduce the impact of invasive plant species in the Midwest

Focus On

Giant hogweed (Heracleum mantegazzianum)

Photos by Leslie J. Mehrhoff, Univ. of Connecticut

Frequently Used Resources:

New INVASIVE PLANTS in the Midwest flyer (PDF)
- Download the PDF (high resolution copy)
- Lower resolution copy (faster download time)
- Need large quantities of the flyer for distribution? Click here
- Report sightings of plants described in the flyer - Instructions
- One of the plants on the flyer, Giant hogweed, is frequently mis-identified as cow parsley. For more information and identification tips for Giant hogweed, click here.
- Fact sheets about each plant listed on the flyer. Go to Early Detection and Rapid Response to view

Invasive Plants Brochure - Why Should I Care About Invasive Plants?

MIPN Quarterly Newsletter
- Current Issue - Winter 2000
- Back Issues

Conference Presentations

Landscape Alternatives for Invasive Plants of the Midwest:
What’s new for 2009?

- Expanding our efforts in outreach to and collaboration with green industry to prevent new invasions
- Distributing and encouraging use of best management practices (BMPs) developed by Wisconsin DNR and MNRG
- Securing continued funding for existing MIPN programs and staff
MIPN’s next Annual Meeting and Invasive Plants Symposium will be held in conjunction with the Stewardship Network Conference January 2010 Kellogg Center in East Lansing, MI