

Invasive Plants in Pennsylvania

Jetbead

Rhodotypos scandens



John Randall, The Nature Conservancy

Background:

Jetbead is native to Asia and was introduced into the United States in the late 1800's as an ornamental.

Range:

Jetbead is widespread in the northeastern and midwestern United States, from Wisconsin and Indiana east to New England and south to Kentucky and Tennessee. It has also been reported in South Carolina and Alabama.

Habitat:

This species prefers full sun, but can grow in full shade. with moist, well-drained soils. It prefers moist, well-drained soils, but is highly adaptable and will tolerate poor soils (compaction and pH extremes), drought, salt & pollution.

Ecological Threat:

Jetbead can invade forested areas, and will create a dense layer of vegetation capable of displacing native shrubs/forbs and preventing the regeneration of desirable tree species.

Description:

Jetbead is a deciduous shrub with multiple stems, which matures to a height of five feet. Jetbead is in the rose family (*Rosaceae*). It has bright green leaves which are opposite, simple and doubly serrate with a rough surface. The leaves are two to four inches long and one to two inches wide. It has white flowers with four-petals, which occur in small terminal clusters. The flowers produce small, black bead-like fruit in groups of four.

Biology and Spread:

This species spreads primarily by seed and root suckers. Seeds are shining black and hard, ripening in October. Seeds may persist on the plant through winter.



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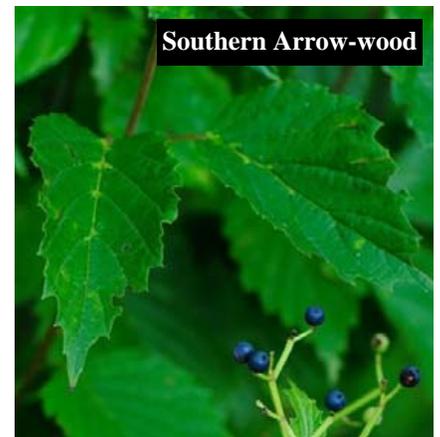
Sten Porse, www.en.wikipedia.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, Univ. of Connecticut

Look-A-Likes:

Jetbead does resemble southern arrow-wood (*Viburnum dentatum*) in leaf shape and habit. The leaf margins differ, with jetbead having finely toothed, doubly serrate leaf margins while arrow-wood leaves are coarsely toothed and singly serrate.



Vern Wilkins, www.bugwood.org



Leslie J. Mehrhoff, Univ. of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



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Jetbead Treatment Guidance

For small populations of immature plants, hand pulling or digging can be effective. It is important to remove all of the roots to prevent root suckering. All plant material should be bagged and removed from the site for disposal. The site should be monitored the following year to ensure that no resprouting has occurred.

Large populations/large plants should be treated in a two-stage method. First, all plants should be cut to the ground in the fall. Second, glyphosate (Glyphomate 41) or triclopyr (Garlon 3A) should be applied to any regrowth in the spring. Be sure to follow all label instructions and state regulations.

These larger sites will need to be monitored for several years to address the potential seed bank. New seedlings can be hand pulled or dug out and larger plants can be treated through a foliar application of the herbicides mentioned above. The larger plants could be the result of missed plants from the previous treatment or resprouting of existing root stock that was not completely killed by the herbicide application.