

# Multiflora rose

*Rosa multiflora*



## HABITAT:

- Endures shade, sun, damp and/or dry conditions
- Commonly seen growing in mangled clumps in old fields, pastures and hedgerows

## ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS:

- Grows aggressively, forming dense thickets that inhibit growth of native species. This may be detrimental to native birds nesting<sup>1</sup>



## Plant at a Glance:

1. **Leaf:** pinnately compound leaves that hang off drooping stems, and fringed stipules
2. **Flower:** fragrant, five pinkish-white petals, 1/2-1 in. with numerous stamens
3. **Fruit:** “rose hips”, bright red, globular, fleshy that grow to form leathery capsules

## TIMING:

- Flowers in May
- Fruits in mid to late summer and persist through winter

## MANAGEMENT:

- Regular monthly mowing to inhibit seedling establishment
- Medium to large shrubs can be removed by weed-pulling tools or dug out. Best time is before and after flowering
- If necessary, cut and treat stump with a glyphosate herbicide (follow label directions when applying herbicide)

## Native Alternative:

Pasture rose, *Rosa carolina*

- Blooms May - July
- **Habitat:** open woods, fields, roadsides
- **Benefits and Uses:** provides nectar for bumblebees and birds eat the hips. Good as ground cover or for bordering.<sup>2</sup>
- **Growing tips:** grows best in full to partial sun in average to dry conditions and loamy soil but other soils are tolerated



**References:** <sup>1</sup>Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*). U.S. National Park Service. Plant Conservation Alliance, Bureau of Land Management, n.d. Web. 31 July 2012. <<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/romu.htm>>.

<sup>2</sup>“Grow Native! Plant Detail.” *Grow Native!*. Missouri Prairie Foundation., n.d. Web. 31 July 2012. <<http://www.grownative.org/plants/info.asp?id=86>>.

**Photos:** courtesy of James H. Miller, USDA Forest Service, <<http://www.galvbayinvasives.org/Guide/Species/RosaMultiflora>>.