

Narrowleaf bittercress

Cardamine impatiens



HABITAT:

- Stream banks, moist woods and thickets

ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS:

- Seed pods burst open and project seeds to other areas which allows itself to create dense colonies, lowering diversity and quality of the habitat¹

Year 1 - rosette leaflet



Year 2 - mature leaflet



TIMING:

- Flowers May - July
- Fruits May - September

MANAGEMENT:

- Pull small infestations at the base of the stem. Focus on eradicating stands of 2nd year plants in flower or fruit.
- Those with flowers and/or fruit should be bagged and disposed of to prevent spread of seeds
- Cutting flowering plants at the base will eradicate 99% of the plants and eliminate seed production²

Plant at a Glance:

1. **Leaf:** Year 1, pinnately compound, leaflets have rounded lobes
Year 2, pinnately compound, leaflets are elliptical
2. **Flower:** Year 1, *does not flower**
Year 2, clusters at top and at end of branching stems, white to green in color, four-petaled
3. **Fruit:** Year 1, *does not fruit**
Year 2, thin, straight pod, about 1 inch

*note: biennial life cycle

Native Alternative:

Pennsylvania bittercress, *Cardamine pensylvanica*

- **Habitat:** floodplain woodlands, swamps, shady seeps/springs, woodland paths, disturbed areas
- **Benefits and Uses:** visited by small bees and flower flies
- **Growing tips:** conditions with rich, loamy soil



References: ¹"Narrowleaf Bittercress." *Minnesota Department of Agriculture*. Minnesota Department of Agriculture, n.d. Web. 1 Aug. 2012. <<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/en/plants/badplants>>.

²Weber, Jill, and Sally Rooney. "Management Plans For Invasive Plant Species of Acadia National Park: Natural Resources Report." National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior, n.d. Web. 1 Aug. 2012. <www.nps.gov/nero/science/FINAL/ACAD_invasivemanagement/NRR-2007-018%20ACADred.pdf>.

Photos: *Minnesota Department of Agriculture*. Web. 9 Aug. 2012. <<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants/badplants/bittercress.aspx>>. , Mehrhoff, Leslie J. . *Flowers*. N.d. University of Connecticut, United States. *Forestry Images*. Web. 9 Aug. 2012. <<http://www.forestryimages.org/browse/detail.cfm?imgnum=5449232>>.