



## MILE-A-MINUTE VINE

*Persicaria perfoliata*

Origin: India & Eastern Asia

### INVASIVE RANKING, NYS

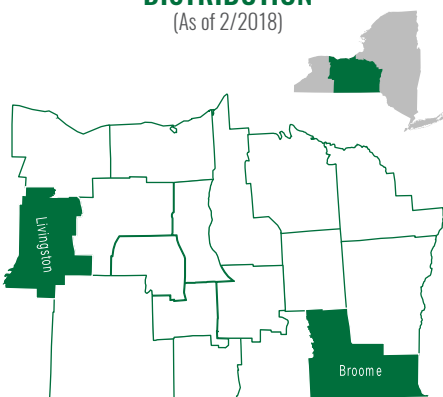
Very High

### MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Chemical  
Mechanical  
Physical  
Biocontrol  
Prevention

### DISTRIBUTION

(As of 2/2018)



[www.fingerlakesinvasives.org](http://www.fingerlakesinvasives.org)

Mile-a-minute vine is an annual herbaceous vine with distinct triangular leaves and prickly stems. Leaves are 5-7 cm wide and 7-9 cm long, alternate in arrangement, and light green with barbs on the underside. Vines are narrow and covered in small, curved spines; older vines are reddish and woody. The flowering structure of mile-a-minute vine has a distinctive leafy, cup-shaped ocrea at its base. Small white flowers bloom in early summer. Berries are pale green when immature and ripen to a deep purple-blue from mid July until the first frost.

### HABITAT

Mile-a-minute vine is generally found colonizing disturbed and open areas, including along the edges of woods, streams, wetlands, and roads. While it will grow in drier soils, mile-a-minute vine prefers wet environments with poor soil structure. The plant is most aggressive in full sun, but minimal shade can be tolerated. Using its specially adapted recurved barbs, mile-a-minute weed can reach maximum sunlight by growing over shrubs and trees.

### THREAT

Extremely rapid growth of up to 15 cm per day allows mile-a-minute vine to form dense populations that smother tree seedlings and native plants. New outbreaks can occur great distances from the original source due to seed distribution by birds, small rodents, and water.

### MANAGEMENT

Biological, mechanical, physical and chemical control are options for the removal and management of mile-a-minute vine. The vines can be mowed, cut, or removed by hand and disposed of in plastic bags before seeds are produced. Vines should be allowed to dry prior to disposal. Low-growing infestations may be repeatedly cut or mowed to reduce flowering and seed production. Biological control is available through the use of mile-a-minute weevils (*Rhinoncomimus latipes*). Herbicides have also proven effective against this species.

**REFERENCE** - Abbey, Tim. Mile-A-Minute or Devil's Tearthumb. May 2000. Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group. [http://www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg/pdfs/mile\\_a\\_minute.pdf](http://www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg/pdfs/mile_a_minute.pdf). June 6, 2017.  
Mile-A-Minute (*Persicaria perfoliate*). New York Invasive Species Information: Cornell University Corporate Extension. [http://nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive\\_detail&id=31](http://nyis.info/index.php?action=invasive_detail&id=31). June 6, 2017.

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