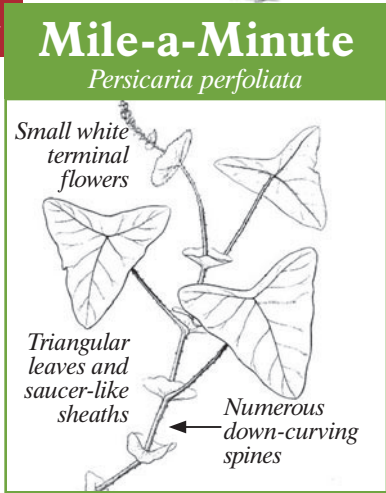




INVASIVE PLANT IDENTIFICATION SHEET

- ▶ **Mile-a-Minute** is an annual vine that germinates beginning in March and April.
- ▶ The plant is identified by its triangular leaves and saucer-shaped sheaths along the its thorny stem.
- ▶ Mile-a-minute vines smother native plants, shrubs, and small trees. The plant was accidentally introduced with ornamental plants from Asia in the 1930s.



Seed-laden mile-a-minute vines completely cover trees beneath.

Mile-a-Minute CALENDAR

April and May

Seedlings germinate before native plants begin to grow giving them the competitive edge. Seedlings may be scraped or pulled. They are too low for mowing, and growing vines sprawl until reaching a plant to climb up on.



Mile-a-minute branches as it grows. It flowers and sets seeds on its growing ends repeatedly from July into October. Is there another plant with such an extended reproductive period?



Early April—Seedlings germinate in early April. The seed leaves do not resemble the triangular-shaped mature leaves.

September—One spring seedling grew into this killer vine and would have continued growing and setting see until mid-late October.



◀ **April–June**—This is the time to pull mile-a-minute before it begins to flower and set seed by late June. Note the vines' bright red roots. Rubber-palmed work gloves are a must to protect yourself from thorns, and they make it easy to grasp the plant at the soil line.



◀ **July–October**—Flowers are greenish then white and don't appear to open. Casing around the seeds are greenish at first and gradually turn white, then purple then blue. Inside each casing is black bee-bee like seed which remains viable at least 2 years in the soil. The seeds on the right are actual size.