



Whatcom Weeds

Whatcom County Noxious Weed Control Board 901 W. Smith Road Bellingham WA 98226
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SILVER LACE VINE

Polygonum aubertii

THREAT: Silver lace vine, also called silvervine, fleecflower or Chinese fleecvine, is a native of Asia, introduced to North America as a garden ornamental. It has escaped cultivation, and has been seen growing wild in the Seattle and Portland areas. Silver lace vine grows rapidly, growing up and over surrounding vegetation and structures. It can grow in a variety of environments, in full sun to partial shade, and is drought tolerant. Silver lace vine spreads by rhizomes and can be difficult to control. In Europe, this plant has formed hybrids with Himalayan knotweed (*P. polystachyum*), another invasive knotweed. Silver lace vine is currently on the state noxious weed board's monitor list.

DESCRIPTION: Silver lace vine is a perennial deciduous vine in the knotweed family. The wiry, twining stems are fast growing and can reach 25-35 feet. The simple, ovate, alternate leaves are 1.5 to 3.5 inches long. Mature leaves are bright green in color, while new growth is reddish. The numerous white fragrant flowers are 0.2 inches in diameter and are borne in 6-inch panicles. Flowering occurs throughout the summer and into early fall.

MANAGEMENT OPTIONS: Control methods for silver lace vine are not well researched. Other related polygonums are best controlled with herbicides. Mechanical control may be effective for this plant, especially for individual plants, but any rhizomes left in the ground may resprout. To be effective, control work must be continued, as needed, throughout several growing seasons. Contact the weed control board for chemical recommendations.

