

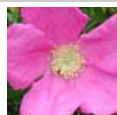


Invasive Plant Atlas of New England

Catalog of Species Search Results



[:: Catalog of Species Search](#)



Lonicera morrowii

(Morrow's honeysuckle)

[Common Name\(s\)](#) | [Full Scientific Name](#) | [Family Name Common](#) | [Family Scientific Name](#) | [Images](#) | [Synonyms](#) | [Description](#) | [Similar Species](#) | [Reproductive/Dispersal Mechanisms](#) | [Distribution](#) | [History of Introduction in New England](#) | [Habitats in New England](#) | [Threats](#) | [Early Warning Notes](#) | [Management Links](#) | [Documentation Needs](#) | [Additional Information](#) | [References](#) | [Data Retrieval](#) | [Maps of New England Plant Distribution](#)

COMMON NAME

Morrow's honeysuckle

FULL SCIENTIFIC NAME

Lonicera morrowii Gray

FAMILY NAME COMMON

Honeysuckle family

FAMILY SCIENTIFIC NAME

Caprifoliaceae

IMAGES



Flowers

[Fruit](#)
Fruit



Fruit



Habit



Flowers



Incursion

NOMENCLATURE/SYNONYMS

Synonyms: None

DESCRIPTION

Botanical Glossary

Lonicera morrowii is a woody, perennial shrub that reaches 2.5 m (8 ft.) in height. The stems of this shrub are hollow. The oppositely arranged leaves are oblong to narrowly elliptic in shape and measure 2.5-6.3 cm (1-2.5 in.) long. The apexes of the leaves are usually obtuse, but can be somewhat acute. The leaves are grayish and tomentose on their lower surface.

The peduncles are 5-15 mm (0.2-0.6 in.) in length and very hairy. The bractlets, sepals and corolla are also pubescent. The bracteoles are more than half as long as the ovary when the flower is fully open. The paired flowers of *Lonicera morrowii* measure 1.25 cm (0.5 in.) long and are usually white, fading to yellow with age. The flowers appear on this plant from late May to early June. The fruits are red spherical berries measuring 6 mm (0.25 in.) in diameter, and like the flowers they are borne in pairs. These berries appear in mid-summer and are usually gone in the fall.

Page References Bailey 943, Fernald 1333, Gleason & Cronquist 509, Holmgren 479, Magee & Ahles 963, Newcomb 294. See reference section below for full citations.

SIMILAR SPECIES

Lonicera x bella Zabel (Bell's honeysuckle)
L. tartarica. L (Tartarian honeysuckle)
L. maackii (Rupr.) Herder (Amur honeysuckle)
L. xylosteum L. (Dwarf honeysuckle)
Lonicera spp. (Native bush honeysuckles)

[Link to the key of exotic honeysuckles](#)

The key above does not include the native bush honeysuckles. One way to differentiate between the invasive bush honeysuckles and the native ones is that the invasive honeysuckles all have hollow stems, while the the stems of the native ones are solid.

REPRODUCTIVE/DISPERSAL MECHANISMS

The seeds of *Lonicera morrowii* are mainly dispersed by birds which eat the fruits.

DISTRIBUTION

Lonicera morrowii is native to Japan. In the United States it has been reported from the east coast, south to South Carolina and west to Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri and Arkansas, as well as Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico. In New England it has been

reported from all states.

HISTORY OF INTRODUCTION IN NEW ENGLAND

Lonicera morrowii was discovered on a trip by Dr. James Morrow in Japan from 1862 to 1864. The plants were sent to Asa Gray in Cambridge, Massachusetts, who consequently named the plant after its collector. Sometime after this, around 1875, the plant was introduced into cultivation. It is likely that the plant was directly introduced into New England through plantings.

HABITATS IN NEW ENGLAND

Abandoned Field
Early Successional Forest
Edge
Floodplain Forest
Open Disturbed Area
Pasture
Planted Forest
Roadside
Utility Right-of-Way
Vacant Lot
Yard or Garden

Lonicera morrowii can be found in a wide variety of habitats ranging from fields to open forests. It prefers mesic soils, but grows well in dry, sandy soils in calcareous areas.

THREATS

Lonicera morrowii can form thickets that prevent other native plants from getting established. It hybridizes with *L. tatarica* to form the hybrid *L. x bella*, which is also extremely invasive. It can then subsequently backcross with the hybrid forming a "hybrid swarm." It is easily spread by birds because of its persistent fruits that ripen in mid-summer.

MANAGEMENT LINKS

[The Nature Conservancy](#)

[Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources](#)

[Virginia Native Plant Society](#)

[The Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group](#)
Invasive Plant Management Guide

[Illinois Natural History Survey](#)
General description and management guidelines.

[Plant Conservation Alliance](#)

Fact sheet with management information

DOCUMENTATION NEEDS

Documentation required: Mounted snippet of the branch with flowers.

Best time for documentation: Spring

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Integrated Taxonomic Information System

Taxonomic information about the species

PLANTS Database

General information and map

The Nature Conservancy

Extensive description and control information on the bush honeysuckles

Plant Conservation Alliance

Fact sheet on the bush honeysuckles

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Description and control information

University of Connecticut Plants Database

General information and many photographs

Ohio Perennial and Biennial Weed Guide

Pictures and descriptive information

Virginia Tech Dendrology

Description and photographs

REFERENCES

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Holmgren N.H. 1998. Illustrated Companion to Gleason and Cronquist's Manual. New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York.

Magee D.W and H.E. Ahles. 1999. Flora of the Northeast. University of Massachusetts Press, Amherst.

Newcomb N. 1977. Newcomb's Wildflower Guide. Little Brown, Boston.

Nyboer, R. 1992. Vegetation management guideline: Bush honeysuckles: Tatarian, Morrow's, belle, and amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica* L., *Lonicera morrowii* Gray, *Lonicera X bella* Zabel, and *Lonicera maackii* (Rupr.) Maxim.). Natural Areas Journal 12(4): 218-219.

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DATA RETRIEVAL

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- Formatted display as table
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Submit Selection

MAPS OF PLANT DISTRIBUTION IN NEW ENGLAND

Select a study area by clicking the radio button and then click "Submit Selection."

- The whole New England area
- One or more states
- One or more counties
- One or more towns (county sub-divisions)

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