Fuzzy Pride-of-Rochester

*Deutzia scabra* Thunb.

**Common Names:** deutzia, fuzzy deutzia, pride-of-Rochester, fuzzy pride-of-Rochester

**Native Origin:** Eastern Asia - China, Japan, Korea; introduced in 1880.

**Description:** A large deciduous shrub in the hydrangea family (*Hydrangeaceae*) growing to a height 6 to 10 feet and width of 4 to 8 feet with an open, arching crown. The bark is reddish brown to orange-brown and exfoliates in large sheets. Slender stems are fuzzy/scabrous, red-brown to green, with hollow piths and pointed buds. Leaves are opposite, simple, serrate, and slightly pubescent on both surfaces, giving them a rough, fuzzy/scabrous feel. Light green leaves are 4 inches long and 2 inches wide with a rounded leaf base. Flowers are white tinged with a rosy-purple color on the outside of the corolla, fragrant, and borne on a panicle to 6 inches. Flowers are produced on the previous season’s wood and appear in late spring to early summer (April – July). The fruit is a 1/4 inch dry brown capsule that ripens in early fall and persists through the winter. It reproduces through seeds.

**Habitat:** It grows in full sun, semi-shade, or moderately heavy shade. It tolerates most soils but prefers moist well-drained fertile soils. This ornamental plant can be found in landscaped gardens, open woodlands and shady forest edges. In Kentucky state parks fuzzy pride-of-Rochester invades woodlands areas of sugar maple, buckeye, and magnolia trees.

**Distribution:** This species is reported from states shaded on Plants Database map. It is reported invasive in AR, DC, KY, MD, NC, NJ, PA, TN, and VA by the National Park Service. It is also on the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Plant Pest Council List.

**Ecological Impacts:** This self seeding plant has escaped intentional plantings to spread and crowd out other plant species. The large arching crowned shrub competes with native species for sun and nutrients.

**Control and Management:**

- **Manual**- Hand-pull young seedlings when soil is moist. Cut or dig up. Treat cut stumps with herbicides.

- **Chemical**- It can be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or triclopyr. Follow label and state requirements.