

# Invasive Plants- A Concern for Hunter and Non-Hunter Alike



# Invasive Plant Species

- Causing serious problems in forests!
  - Eliminating native understory plants
  - Out competing & displacing native tree species
  - Reducing forest health
  - Reducing forest plant diversity
  - Degrading wildlife habitat
- Four main species
  - » common (European) buckthorn
  - » honeysuckle
  - » Japanese barberry
  - » garlic mustard



# Common (European) Buckthorn

## ❖ Characteristics

- Small tree to large shrub
- Grows 10 to 25 ft tall, 4 to 10" in diameter
- Native to Europe & Asia
- Grows in full sun to full shade
- Produces small, black berries
- Has small thorns, usually on branch tips



# Common (European) Buckthorn

## ❖ Problems it Causes in Forests

- Can quickly take over forest understory
- Shades out native shrubs, wildflowers & young trees
- Destroys wildlife habitat
  - ➡ Eliminates important browse
  - ➡ Eliminates native seed bearing plants
  - ➡ Eliminates wildlife species diversity

# Common (European) Buckthorn

## ❖ How it spreads

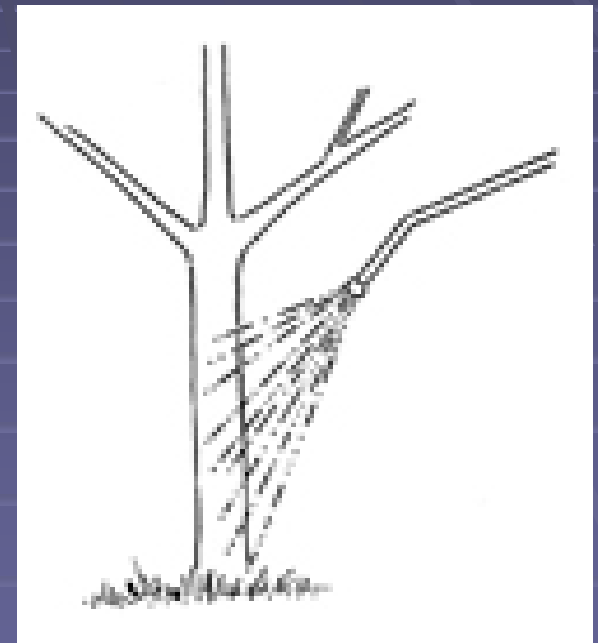
- Seeds
  - birds are primary spreader
  - small mammals
  - seeds are a laxative
- Planting
  - planted as ornamental or hedge



# Common (European) Buckthorn

## ❖ How to Control

- Small plants can be pulled by hand
  - shallow root system
- Herbicide applications
  - cut stump
  - basal bark
  - foliar (fall is best)
- ☞ Garlon 4, Crossbow & Round-Up





# Common (European) Buckthorn



# Common Buckthorn





# Exotic Honeysuckles

## ❖ Characteristics

- Medium to large shrub
- Multiple stems
- Grows 6 to 15 ft tall
- Wide spread canopy
- Grows in full sun to moderate shade
- Small, red to orange-yellow berries
- Native to Asia & western Europe



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# Exotic Honeysuckles

## ❖ Problems it Causes in Forests

- Can quickly take over forest understory
- Shades out native shrubs, wildflowers & young trees
- Destroys wildlife habitat
- Competes for pollinators
  - ☞ less seed produced by natives
  - ☞ low nutritional value of berries

# Exotic Honeysuckles

## ❖ How it spreads

- Seeds
  - birds are primary spreader
- Vegetatively
  - sprouts and root suckers
  - colonies can sprout from one plant
- Planting
  - planted as ornamental
  - planted in past for wildlife

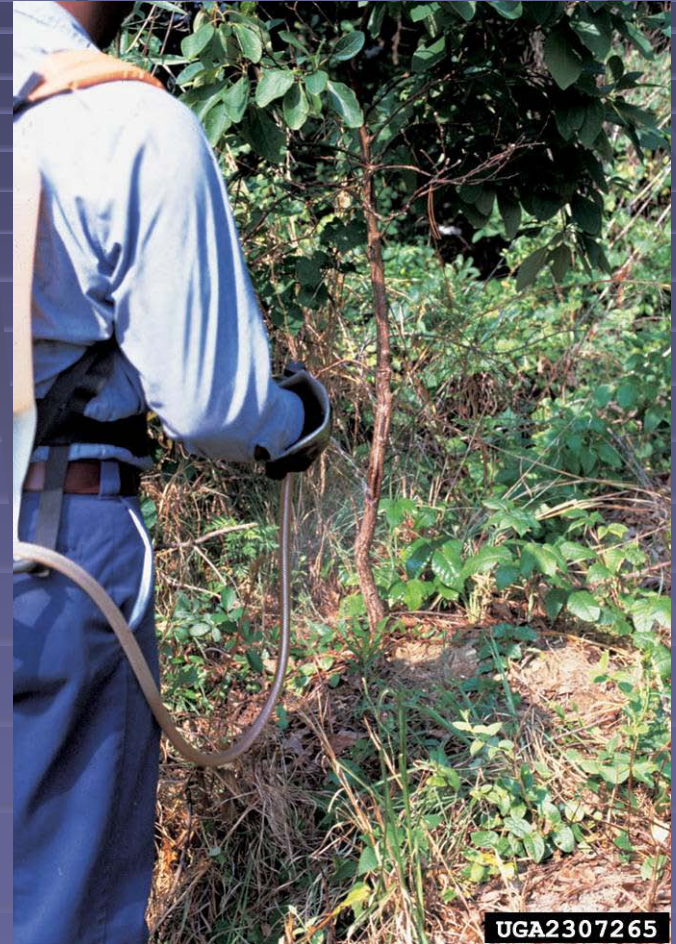




# Exotic Honeysuckles

## ❖ How to Control

- Small plants can be pulled by hand
    - shallow root system
  - Herbicide applications
    - cut stump
    - basal bark
    - foliar (fall is best)
- ☞ Garlon 4 & Round-Up



# Exotic Honeysuckles





# Honeysuckle in Understory





# Japanese Barberry

## ❖ Characteristics

- Small to medium shrub
- Multiple stems
- Grows 2 to 8 ft tall
- Grows in full sun to full shade
- Small, red berries
- Thin spines along stem
- Native of Japan



# Japanese Barberry

## ❖ Problems it Causes in Forests

- Produces dense understory layer
- Can quickly take over forest understory
- Shades out native shrubs, wildflowers & young trees
- Destroys wildlife habitat
- Alters soil pH (more basic)

# Japanese Barberry

## ❖ How it spreads

- Seeds
  - birds are primary spreader
  - small mammals
- Vegetatively
  - branches touching ground form roots
  - root fragments in soil can resprout
- Planting
  - planted as ornamental





# Japanese Barberry

## ❖ How to Control

- Pull small plants by hand or by shovel
    - shallow root system
  - Herbicide applications
    - cut stump
    - basal bark
    - foliar (fall is best)
- ☞ Garlon 4 & Round-Up



# Japanese Barberry



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# Barberry in Understory





# Garlic Mustard

## ❖ Characteristics

- Smells like garlic when crushed
- Biennial herbaceous plant
- Grows best in shade
- Native to Europe



# Garlic Mustard- Characteristics

- ❖ First Year Growth
  - Cluster of 2-4 leaves
  - Cluster is 2-6 inches tall
  - Leaves rounded or kidney shaped
  - Leaves stay green all year
  - Easy to find in winter



# Garlic Mustard- Characteristics

- ❖ Second Year's Growth
  - Plant has 1-3 stems
  - Plant is 1 to 4 feet tall
  - White flowers on tips of stem
  - Leaves heart shaped or triangular
  - Forms long seed pods
  - Seed are small & black





# Garlic Mustard

## ❖ **Problems it Causes in Forests**

- Can quickly take over understory
- Shades out native plants & shrubs
- Degrades wildlife habitat
  - ☞ Eliminates important browse
  - ☞ Eliminates native seed bearing plants
  - ☞ Eliminates wildlife species diversity
- Prevents the establishment of native tree seedlings

# Garlic Mustard

## ❖ How it Spreads

- Seeds
  - carried on animal fur
  - carried by water
  - carried by humans on clothing
  - carried on logging equipment, ATV's, etc
  - birds through feces



# Garlic Mustard

## ❖ How to Control

- Small populations
  - plants can be pulled by hand
  - pulled plants should be burned or buried
- Herbicides
  - treat in October or early spring
    - ☞ Round-Up, Garlon, 2, 4-D, Crossbow
- Cutting may work (not fully proven)
  - cut after flower stalks form, but before flowers open



# Garlic Mustard





# Garlic Mustard in Understory

