

NOT-WANTED!

BLACK SWALLOW-WORT

Cynanchum louiseae

EARLY DETECTION & CONTROL WILL PREVENT INFESTATIONS!



Leaves / Vine



Vine Twining



1/8 inch Flowers



Fruit / Seed Pods

photos: minnesotawildflowers.info

Black swallow-wort (or black dog-strangling vine), a perennial from Europe, looks like a dark green, glossy milkweed vine. Swallow-worts form thick masses that overtake and smother shrubs, other vegetation and entire fields. This plant is on the Minnesota Noxious Weed Eradicate List; all above and below-ground parts must be destroyed by law.

Twining **vines grow to 8 feet long**, with opposite, dark green, pointed, glossy, **leaves**. **Blooms** June - August. Tiny, 1/8th inch **flowers**, grow from leaf attachment points. They are dark purple with yellow centers, resembling five-pointed stars. **Fruit** resembles small, 2 1/2 by 3/8 inch, smooth milkweed pods, strung along the vine length. **Seeds** spread by wind on silky fibrous "parachutes", like milkweed. Plants also spread by stolons that trail and root away from the crown, creating a difficult-to-remove tangle. When monarch butterflies lay eggs on this plant, their caterpillars experience high mortality.

Control Methods: If swallow-wort is found, search for additional plants and monitor the area consistently. Crowns may be dug in spring if patches are small. Repeated mowing through the growing season may prevent seed formation. Cutting should be done when pods are immature. Cutting when flowering will result in re-flowering and viable seeds. Triclopyr and glyphosate products are effective, but only if used after flowering begins. Plants will not become brown after spraying, but will look spotted after 1 or 2 weeks. Respraying the same year wastes herbicide without added effect. May need up to five years to eradicate; be persistent! Do not enter patches that are dispersing seeds. Always clean shoes, clothing, mower decks and tires. Additional methods on back of flier. **Toxicity to grazing animals suspected.**

Ramsey 
Conservation District

For more information contact:

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Non-Chemical controls	
New (Type)	Description
<p>Type - Mowing</p> <p>User Type - Novice</p> <p>Effectiveness - in season ★ ★ ☆ ☆ year after treatment ★ ☆ ☆ ☆</p>	<p>Mowing is typically ineffective at eradicating existing populations due to the growth habit, but can be done to prevent seed production. Mow after the formation of seed pods but before pods elongate. Monitor populations and repeat mowing if concerned about seed production. Mowing is a useful way to prepare a site for a later herbicide application.</p>
<p>Type - Manipulation of the environment</p> <p>User Type - Novice</p> <p>Effectiveness - in season ★ ★ ★ ★ year after treatment ★ ☆ ☆ ☆</p>	<p>Mulching to a depth of 3" or more will reduce growth and prevent seed germination. Organic or synthetic mulches or a tarp can be used. Populations should remain covered for at least two years to suppress the population.</p>

Chemical controls		
New (Type)	Ingredients	Directions
<p>Type - Cut stump</p> <p>User Type - Novice</p> <p>Effectiveness - in season ★ ★ ★ ★ year after treatment ★ ★ ☆ ☆</p>	<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): glyphosate</p> <p>Common product name: Roundup Pro; many others (Aquatic: Rodeo; AquaNeat)</p>	<p>Rate - (spot) 50 - 100% (1.5 - 3 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing - Any time of year.</p> <p>Caution - Use product labeled for aquatic use if potential exists for solution to contact surface waters. Applications can result in bare ground as glyphosate is not selective. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided, as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury to plants.</p>
<p>Type - Cut stump</p> <p>User Type - Novice</p> <p>Effectiveness - in season ★ ★ ★ ★ year after treatment ★ ★ ☆ ☆</p>	<p>Active Ingredient (A.I.): triclopyr</p> <p>Common product name: Garlon 4; Element 4 (Aquatic: Garlon 3A; Element 3A)</p>	<p>Rate - (spot) 25 - 30% in oil (1 - 1.2 lb a.e./gal)</p> <p>Timing - Apply any time of year.</p> <p>Remarks - Products containing this active ingredient can have different instructions for mixing. Labels will recommend mixing the product in a water or oil based carrier (e.g. basal bark oil). Consult the label to determine the appropriate carrier.</p> <p>Caution - Use product labeled for aquatic use if potential exists for solution to contact surface waters. Use of this chemical in areas where soils are permeable, particularly where the water table is shallow, may result in groundwater contamination. Overspray or drift to desirable plants should be avoided as even minute quantities of the spray may cause severe injury to plants.</p>