

New Invaders Watch Program

Early Detection and Rapid Response Network

COMMON NAME: **BRADFORD PEAR**

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Pyrus calleryana*

FAMILY: *Rosaceae*

ORIGIN: Asia

US INTRODUCTION: Introduced for ornamental use

MAJOR PATHWAYS OF SPREAD:

- Distribution and use for ornamental gardens
- Birds

IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Widely cultivate tree that flowers from March to April (one of the earliest flowering trees), spreads by seed
- Leaves 2 -3 inches wide, heart-shaped to rounded, margins wavy with fine teeth
- Flowers appearing before leaves, white, in clusters up to 1.5 inches across
- Fruits 0.5 inches spherical, green to brown with pale dots, with a core. Seeds small, like those in apples, fertile in some cases
- Trunk single, then branching, grows 30-50 feet tall; side branches often grow nearly parallel with main trunk
- Threatens woodlands, savannas, prairies. Likes full sun and soils well drained



Tree



Flowers



Fruit



Population

NATIVE LOOK-ALIKES:

Common Pear (*P. communis*), exotic, leaf broadest above the middle, ovate, flowers less than 1.5 inches across, fruit greater than 0.5 inches in diameter. Native *Prunus* spp., fruit fleshy with hard pit.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

USDA Plants Database.

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=PYCA80>

Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health.

<http://www.invasive.org/browse/subinfo.cfm?sub=10957>

Global Invasive Species Database.

<http://www.issg.org/database/species/ecology.asp?si=1389&fr=1&sts=&lang=EN>