

New Invaders Watch Program

Early Detection and Rapid Response Network

COMMON NAME: HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Rubus armeniacus*

FAMILY: Rosaceae

ORIGIN: Caucasus region of Eurasia

US INTRODUCTION: Late 1800's for cultivation

MAJOR PATHWAYS OF SPREAD:

- Birds and other animals



Canes and leaves



Close-up of leaves and flowers

IDENTIFICATION CHARACTERISTICS:

- Robust, sprawling, thicket forming shrub, semi-evergreen and glandless; up to 15 feet tall, spreads vegetatively and by seed
- Main plants with large, deep, woody root balls that sprout at nodes
- Stems (canes) biennial, stout, ribbed, and arching with large stiff thorns; canes to 40 feet long
- Leaves are palmately compound with large, rounded to oblong, toothed leaflets usually in groups of 5 on main stems; trailing stems usually have leaflets in groups of three
- Flowers small, white to pinkish with five petals
- Berries large, black
- Threatens floodplains, riparian areas, open woodlands, full sun to part shade



Population

NATIVE LOOK-ALIKES:

Common blackberry, *Rubus allegheniensis*, is distinguished from other blackberries by the numerous glandular hairs on the peduncles (stem supporting the inflorescence) and pedicels (branch of a single flower) of its elongated flower stalk.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

USDA Plants Database.

<http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=RUAR9>

Virginia Tech.

<http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=439>

Oregon State University Extension.

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/ec/ec1594-e.pdf>

Portland State University.

<http://web.pdx.edu/~yeakleya/Caplan & Yeakley 2006.pdf>