

Clematis terniflora, Japanese Virgin's Bower

It is unknown at this point if Japanese Virgin's Bower, also known as Yam-leaf Clematis, is within the Capital-Mohawk boundary, but it would be reasonable to assume so as it is located in CRISP as well as the Lower Hudson. This dense-growing but dainty looking vine is extremely hard to remove and, you guessed it, shades out native plants.

Population Status: Reported in Lower Hudson PRISM and CRISP, current CapMo reports have been debunked.

Description: On the regulated species list, Japanese Virgin's Bower climbs up surrounding plants with its tendril-like petioles. When in fruit, it has small, brown, seed with feathery silvery-grey seedheads. It has yam-like leaves, which have solid borders and are dark green and shiny. The leaves are the main identifying feature, as the flowers look exactly like the native species of clematis.

Control: No manual control measures.

Look-alikes: This plant looks almost identical to Virginia Virgin's Bower, the native *Clematis* in growth habit. It is identifiable by its solid leaf shape, unlike the lobed leaf of the native relative. The native species is pictured to the right in the bottom image, the invasive Japanese Virgin's bower has the solid leaf on the left.

Flower Time and Description: It blooms in showy, four-petaled white flowers that are present in late summer to early fall.

