Rubus lacinatus, Cutleaf Raspberry

This form of Rubus has not been seen in the Capital region and it is unknown what kind of impact it will have on our native species. As with many other forms of Rubus, it possesses edible berries, which may be the cause for its introduction. A number of cultivars are available from the nursery industry.

**Population Status:** Confirmed- Lower Hudson PRISM. This plant is found up and down both coasts of the U.S. with it's range extending from the coasts into Missouri and Colorado respectively.

**Description:** Cutleaf raspberry is identifiable through its five palmate leaflets which are green on both surfaces. The underside of the leaves have hairs and the leaflets are dissected. The habitat for this plant in the northeast is commonly old field and pasture lands as well as other disturbed sites. Like other kinds of Rubus, this plant is perennial, with biennial stems which produce fruit in the second year. The feral version of this plant does have thorns though there are thornless cultivars.

**Control:** Mechanical control of this plant is possible, but new plants will establish from broken roots. This plant is vulnerable to livestock browse, but goats and deer are more likely to provide control than sheep and cattle.

**Look-alikes:** Other forms of Raspberry and Blackberry are similar to Cutleaf, but can be differentiated by the leaves. Elmleaf Blackberry, Wineberry, Dewberry, Loganberry, and others have similar fruit shape, but different leaves.

**Flower Time and Description:** This plant is in flower from May to July. The flowers are five-petaled and pinkish to whitish in color. The fruit of this plant is round, edible, and shiny black and can grow up to .8 inches.