

## **Tier 1:**

### *Actinidia arguta*, Hardy Kiwi, Taravine

When Hardy Kiwi is found, it is often an escaped ornamental. This species was used in historical landscaping in the Berkshires and is currently being used by the permaculture industry for food production. The populations in the Berkshires have shown extremely invasive potential, taking over parks and tearing down trees in the winter due to the weight of the frozen vines.

**Population Status:** Confirmed- Lower Hudson PRISM and MA.

**Description:** *A. arguta* is a liana, a woody vine that roots in the soil. It has small white flowers in the months of June and July with alternate, simple leaves that have small teeth. The leaves have red petioles, the stalk area where the leaves join the stem. The fruits resemble miniature, skinless Kiwis. The bark of Hardy Kiwi is grey and begins to peel off as the vine matures, making it often mistaken for wild grape, though the bark has a different color. Vines have a hollow center.

**Control:** Small vines can be pulled, but no real effective manual control for larger vines.

**Look-alikes:** Oriental Bittersweet (invasive but widespread) and Wild Grape (native)

**Flower Time and Description:** Late spring, large clusters of small white cup-shaped flowers.

