

Invasive Species

Taxonomic Name: *Celastrus orbiculatus*

Common Name: *Oriental bittersweet*

Physical Description:



Growth Type: *Celastrus orbiculatus* grows as a rapid and aggressive, thicket forming vine and at maturity can reach up to two feet in height.

Leaves: The green leaves of the *Celastrus orbiculatus* are round with finely toothed and serrated edges which are arranged alternately.

Flowers: The inconspicuous white flowers, borne in the axils of the leaves of this plant emerge in the spring. This distinguishes this invasive species from the native, *Celastrus scandens* whose flowers and fruit are more terminally located on the stem.

