

# Invasive Species

Taxonomic Name: *Lonicera japonica*

Common Name: *Japanese honeysuckle*

Physical Description:

Growth Type:  
*Lonicera japonica* is a twining vine or groundcover that spreads up to 30 feet. It grows quickly and rampantly.



Leaves: *The dark green leaves are simple and oval-shaped. They vary in length from 1 – 3 inches. They are evergreen to semi-evergreen depending on the severity of the winter cold.*

Flowers: *Flowers open white, but fade to a deep yellow. They have many long, thin stamens protruding from the trumpet of the flower. When they bloom in early summer, they are very fragrant.*



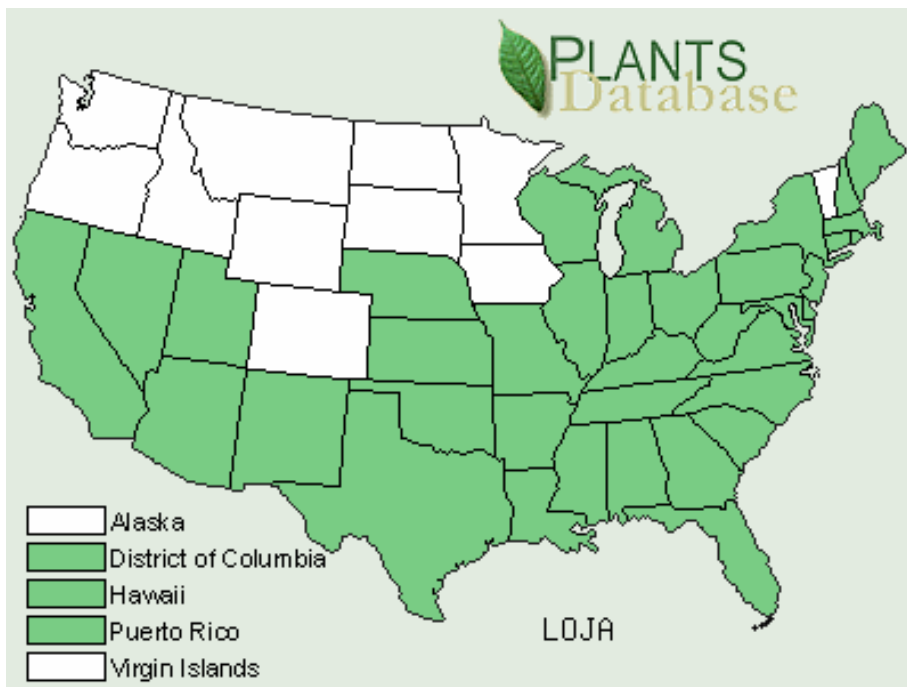
Fruit: *The fruit is black and barely noticeable in fall.*

Bark: *The stems of the vine are very thin and rather string-like.*



Invasive Nature: *Japanese honeysuckle can easily escape cultivated areas and spread in the wild due to the dispersion of seeds by birds. It grows quickly, engulfing other plants and creating a dense shade that excludes light to anything trying to grow beneath. The plant has also been cultivated for its showy, fragrant flowers and this also has lead to increased distribution nationwide.*

Coverage Area:



Sources:

[http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=LOJA&photoID=loja\\_005\\_ahp.tif](http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=LOJA&photoID=loja_005_ahp.tif)

<http://www.hort.uconn.edu/Plants//lonjap/lonjap1.html>