

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

ALIEN INVADERS



BLACK SWALLOW-WORT

Vincetoxicum nigrum

BASIC ID

This perennial vine can twine 3'-6' high with dark green, oval shaped leaves with pointed tips. Small purple flowers have five triangular petals and bloom in June. Slender seed pods (1.5"-3") that are similar to other milkweeds release silky filaments when ripe.

FACTS

Native to Europe, this vine is found in forests, prairies, open fields, and along roadsides where it blankets native plants. This plant can potentially harm monarch populations that lay their eggs on the vine; but larvae cannot survive.

MANAGEMENT

- Remove all seed pods before they open and then burn or landfill to prevent seed release.
- Apply foliar herbicide recommended for swallow-wort.
- If hand dug, all roots must be removed.
- Monitor for continued growth for several years.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives>

Photo: Elizabeth J. Czarapata

Printed on Recycled Paper

PUB-FR-475 2011

