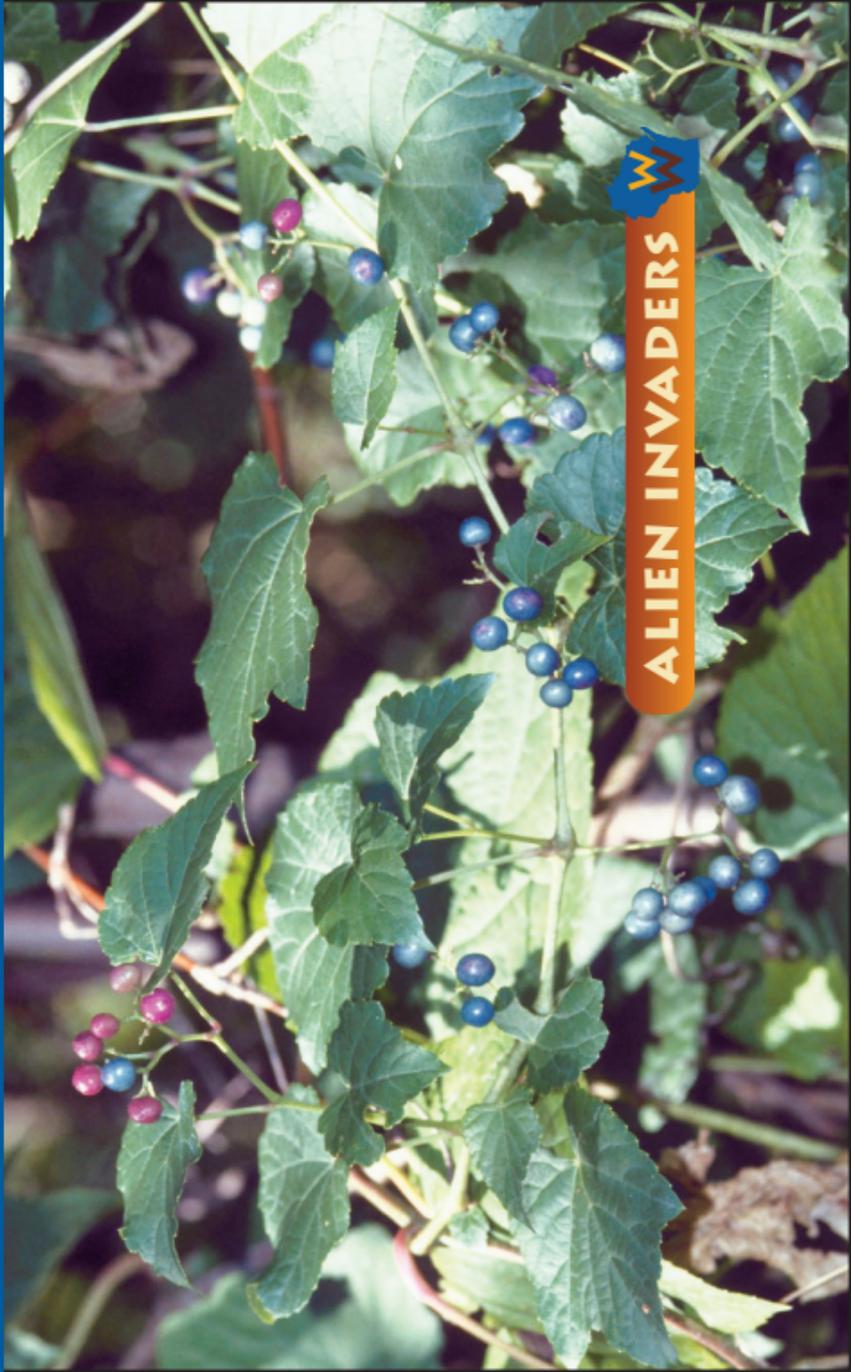


WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

ALIEN INVADERS

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PORCELAIN BERRY

Ampelopsis brevipedunculata

BASIC ID: This perennial, deciduous, woody vine in the grape family can climb 20'. Easily confused with native grapes (*Vitis spp.*) though characteristics differ; the stem pith of porcelain berry is white (grape is brown), the bark has lenticels (grape does not), and the bark doesn't peel (grape bark peels and shreds). The leaves are alternate with a heart-shaped base and 3–5 lobes or more that are deeply dissected with toothed margins. Fruits appear in clusters in late summer to early autumn changing from pastel green to purple, then to bright blue with notable gray flecks.

FACTS: Native to Asia, this extremely aggressive vine shades out native vegetation, blanketing the ground and climbing trees and shrubs. The colorful berries are spread by birds and other small animals. Seeds germinate readily starting new infestations. Often found in riparian areas downstream from established patches. The taproot is large and vigorous and resprouts if cut above ground.

MANAGEMENT

- Hand pull younger vines.
- Cut near ground and treat cut stems with herbicide or repeat cutting of resprouts.
- Continued monitoring is required as the seed remains viable for several years.
- Apply herbicide (foliar or basal bark).

Photo: Jill Swearingen, USDI National
Park Service, Bugwood.org
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FR-508 2013



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