

Japanese Chaff Flower

Achyranthes japonica



Mature Height	3 to 6 feet	Soil Type	All
Mature Spread	Colonizes	Flower Color	
Mature Form	Branched to Up-right	Foliage Color	Green - reddish tint on stems
Growth Rate	Rapid	Fall Color	Straw-Brown
Sun Exposure	Partial Shade Preferred		
Soil Moisture	Prefers Moist		

Eddmaps.org

This highly invasive perennial is a native of Eastern Asia and was first found in eastern Kentucky in the early 1980's and is spreading along the Ohio River floodplains and its tributaries. It grows rapidly to heights of 3 to 6 feet and quickly shades out native plants. It spreads by seed and by plants moving downstream in floodwaters. Easily recognized by its "bottle brush" flower spike. The seed sticks to clothing and to pets and wildlife spreading to upland areas. Hikers in infested areas need to clean off seed before returning to uplands where they can create new infestations. Seed is also spread by roadside mowing, farm equipment, campers and other vehicles moving through infested areas.

Control is by mechanical means such as mowing or hand pulling before seed sets in late July. Plants may be deeply rooted and require digging to remove. Remove in winter or early spring. Foliar spraying with a systemic herbicide such as glyphosate or triclopyr is effective. Always follow label directions when using a herbicide.



First Year Plant

Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council



Flower

Chris Evans Photo



Seed



Seed Spread by Animals

Chris Evans Photo



This fact sheet was developed by the West Central Indiana Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) with funding by the Nina Mason Pulliam Charitable Trust. The CWMA consists of 27 western and central Indiana counties and strives to help land users identify and control invasive terrestrial plants through workshops, field days and other educational activities.

