

Japanese clematis (*Clematis terniflora*)

Also called: Sweet autumn virgins bower, leatherleaf clematis

Family name: Buttercup (Ranunculaceae)

Native range: Japan

NJ Status: Emerging Stage 3- Common (may be regionally abundant). It is *highly threatening* to natural plant communities. All newly detected occurrences should be eradicated.

General description:

- Climbing, semi-evergreen vine
- Can grow 20'-40' in one year
- Dense growth crowds out native plants

Leaves:

- Opposite, usually untoothed
- Compound with 5 (occasionally 3) oval or heart-shaped leaflets



Flowers:

- Small & white, 4 petals
- Fragrant
- Abundant- forms a blanket of flowers topping vegetation
- Blooms August-September



Fruit:

- Seeds occur in showy clusters
- Long, feathery persistent styles
- Ripen in fall
- Seeds are prolific and germinate readily

Immature Seeds



Mature Seeds



Habitat:

- Forest edges, floodplains, streams and shores
- Prefers sun/partial shade, but tolerates full shade

Commercial Availability: Yes

Look-alikes:

Virgin's bower (*Clematis virginiana*)

- Native vine
- Leaves are toothed
- Similar flower & seed head



Virgin's bower