

Japanese hop (*Humulus japonica*)

Family name: Hemp (Cannabaceae)

Native range: Asia

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 or trailing annual vine
- Climbs by twining (lacks tendrils)
- 1.5-8' long
- Stems have small, downwardly curving prickles
- **WARNING: This plant can cause rashes or blistering. Handle with gloves.**

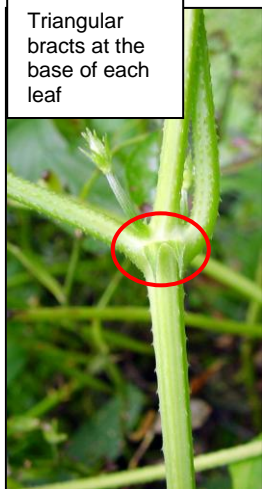
Leaves:

- Opposite, toothed, rough
- Divided into 5-9 distinct lobes
- V-shaped sinuses
- Younger leaves can have 3-5 lobes
- 2"-5" long
- Leaves are borne on long petioles (stems)
- Triangular bracts occur at the base of leaf stems

Japanese hops have V-shaped sinuses and 5 lobes



Triangular bracts at the base of each leaf



Flowers:

- Male and female flowers grow on separate plants
- Male flowers: 6"-10" long
- Female: cone-shaped spikes, 0.25"-0.4" long
- Individual flowers are small and greenish
- Blooms July-early October

Fruit:

- Ripening in July-September
- Hanging papery capsules



Habitat:

- Abandoned fields, forest edge, streambanks
- Often found in open disturbed areas, especially in moist soil

Commercial Availability: Yes

Look-alikes:
Common hop

(*Humulus lupulus*)

- Vine- 3 native varieties, 2 exotic
- Its leaves are wider than Japanese hop and have U-shaped sinuses

Common hops have U-shaped sinuses and 3 lobes



Virginia creeper

(*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*)

- Native trailing or climbing vine
- Compound leaf with 5 leaflets- climbs with tendrils
- Lacking prickles

5 deeply divided leaflets of Virginia creeper

