

Identification

Common Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*)

- Sharply pointed stem ends
- Dark green, finely toothed, usually opposite leaves
- Large shrub with arcing leaf veins
- Dark purple berries or small green flowers from leaf axils



Bush Honeysuckle (*Lonicera tartarica* and *maackii*)

- Multi-stemmed and erect, 5–12 feet tall
- Bluish-green, opposite, smooth-edged leaves
- Tubular flowers white, yellow, or red
- Yellow-orange to red berries



Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)

- Low, heart-shaped rosette leaves in first year plants
- Cross-shaped white flowers on 1–3 feet flowering stalks
- Coarse-toothed triangular leaves with a strong garlic odor



Multiflora Rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

- Curved thorns on stiff, rounded canes
- Clusters of white flowers
- Leaves pinnately compound, 5–11 leaflets
- Leaf base with fringed bract



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Project Web site: [www.nrem.iastate.edu/
Invasive_Species/Invasives.html](http://www.nrem.iastate.edu/Invasive_Species/Invasives.html)

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Drawings by Mark Müller, 2002; common buckthorn and bush honeysuckle photos by Christopher Evans, Iowa State University; garlic mustard photo courtesy of Jody Shimp, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, www.invasive.org; and multiflora rose photo courtesy of Paul Wray, Iowa State University. This brochure was created by Connie Dettman and Christopher Evans, Iowa State University, Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management.

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Woodland Invasive Species in Iowa



Common Buckthorn



Bush Honeysuckle



Garlic Mustard



Multiflora Rose

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

The Problem

Invasive plants are those species that are not native to an ecosystem and may potentially cause economic and environmental damage. Invasive species are becoming a serious problem in the Midwest. These plants compete directly with our native flora by invading many of Iowa's woodlands and other natural areas.

Four species—**buckthorn**, **honeysuckle**, **garlic mustard**, and **multiflora rose**—have become problems in Iowa and are impacting woodlands severely. Little information is known about the distribution of these plants in Iowa or which areas are most threatened. This limits our ability to effectively address the problem.

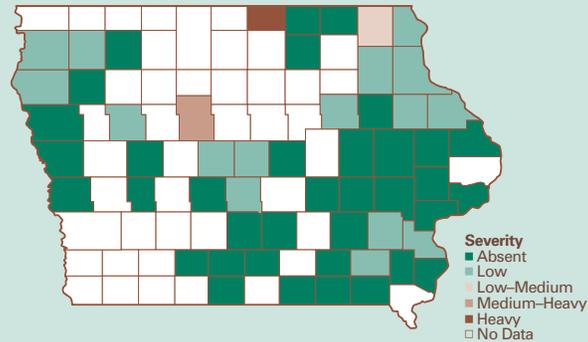


Bush honeysuckle invades woodlands and out-competes native understory plants.

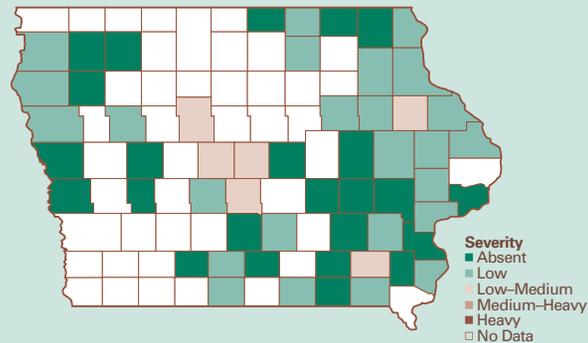
The Response

The Iowa Woodland Invasive Survey was initiated in 2002. The goals are to map the distribution and severity of these four species and to increase public awareness about invasive species. Volunteers collect and report the data from public and private lands. Range and severity maps have been created from the results thus far. The maps show the results by county (see below).

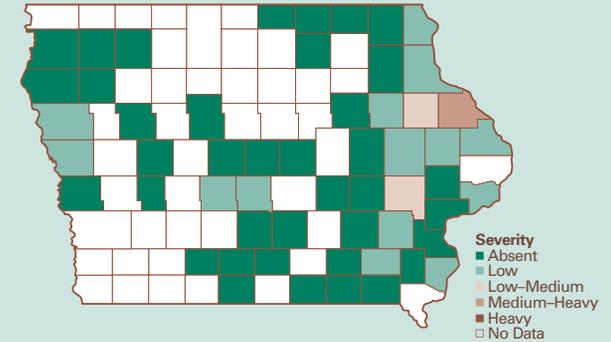
Common Buckthorn



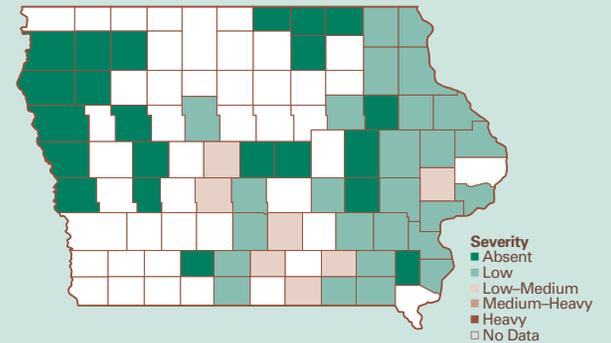
Bush Honeysuckle



Garlic Mustard



Multiflora Rose



If you are interested in surveying a woodland, please contact the Iowa State University Department of Natural Resource Ecology and Management (see reverse for contact information). Contact your county extension office or your local district forester to learn more about controlling invasive species.

To submit invasive species locations without completing a survey, please send any information via e-mail to invasives@iastate.edu or via letter to the contact listed on the back.