

CENTRAL JERSEY INVASIVE SPECIES STRIKE TEAM

Invasive Plant Fact Sheet

Porcelain-berry (*Ampelopsis brevipedunculata*)

Also called: Amur peppervine



Family name: Grape family (Vitaceae)

Native range: Asia

General: Perennial, climbing, woody-stemmed vine that can grow 10 to 20 feet or more. Like native grape species, the nonnative Porcelain-berry climbs using tendrils.

Leaves: Alternate, variable: palmately 3-5 lobed with coarse teeth with a heart-shaped base. 2-4 inches wide. Young twigs, petioles and the undersides of the leaves are hairy.

Flowers: Small, greenish-white appearing May through August.

Fruit: Speckled, 0.25 inch spheres, ripening from September to October. Fruits are borne in clusters and vary in color from yellow to lilac to green, and mature to a blue color.

Look-alikes: Native grape species (*Vitis* sp.) have brown stem pith and shredding or peeling bark. Porcelain-berry has white stem pith and its bark does not peel. In addition, porcelain-berry bark has lenticels, while grape does not.

Habitat: Stream banks, floodplains, roads, shorelines, fields, hedges, or forest edges.



Threats to native habitats: Porcelain-berry is fast growing and can overtop shrubs and trees, completely shading them from the sun. In the absence of vegetation or other structures to climb, porcelain-berry will create dense mats that prevent growth of other plant life.

NJ Status: Porcelain-berry is uncommon but spreading rapidly. This plant is *highly threatening* to natural plant communities. All detected occurrences should be eradicated.

Commercial Availability: Not found.

Sources: Forestry Images: Forest Health, Natural Resources & Silviculture Images: <http://www.forestryimages.org/>

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/ambr1.htm>

<http://nbii-nin.ciesin.columbia.edu/jpane/icat/browse.do?specield=38>

Rhoads, A.F. and T. Block. 2007. Plants of Pennsylvania. 2nd ed. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia, PA. p. 500-1.



Central Jersey Invasive Species Strike Team (CJISST) is a regional cooperative effort to detect, map, and manage emerging populations of invasive species. This initiative is a partnership of state, county, and municipal agencies, conservation groups, and private citizens. To learn more, please contact us: **Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space**, (609) 730-1560, www.fohvos.org or **Upper Raritan Watershed Association**, (908) 234-1852, www.urwa.org.

