

WANTED



Autumn Olive

**INVASIVE
ALIEN**

Origin –
East Asia

Autumn Olive was introduced to the US in 1830 as an ornamental, for wildlife habitat, for windbreaks and to restore deforested lands.

Autumn Olive invades grasslands, fields, open woodlands and disturbed areas. It is drought tolerant and thrives in a variety of soil and moisture conditions. Autumn Olive threatens native ecosystems by displacing native plant species, creating dense shade and interfering with natural plant succession.

The plant is a deciduous shrub growing up to 20'. Leaves are lance shaped with silver white undersides. The flowers are small and light yellow and appear in June/July. They are very, very aromatic. The fruit is reddish pink and very fleshy. A single plant can produce up to 200,000 seeds per year.

Birds that forage on the fleshy fruit are the primary means of dispersal, along with raccoons, skunks and opossums.

Seedlings and sprouts can be hand-pulled when the soil is moist to insure removal of the root system. On larger plants, cutting alone results in thicker dense growth. A glyphosate herbicide, such as Roundup, can be applied to the fresh cut stumps.

DEAD OR ~~ALIVE~~