

Multiflora Rose

Rosa Multiflora



Multiflora rose: The beginning

Multiflora rose was once planted for many uses including conservation, living fences, and ornamental purposes. It was once thought that the plant would make good wildlife habitat and help control erosion. Unfortunately, this rose grows aggressively and creates dense thickets where no other plants can grow and wildlife cannot live. Fruit from Multiflora rose is bright red and attractive to birds that eat and spread the seeds as they are done digesting the fruit. Seeds can still grow 20 years after being dropped in the soil. Fields, forests, and prairies are easily overrun, severely degrading habitat quality.



Measures for Control

Never plant Multiflora rose for decorative purposes. Eradication of the stubborn plant can take several years. Repeated mowing and cutting down the plant several times during the season for several years or cutting and treating the stump with herbicide can be effective. Regular burning of an area can also set multiflora rose back.