

Rosa multiflora

**NON-NATIVE
INVASIVE**



multiflora rose

Family Rosaceae

Origin Non-native

WIS Code FACU CoC -5

DESCRIPTION

Highly invasive multi-stemmed shrub forming expansive dense colonies. Branches are arching and sprawling (to 3 m long). Stems lack hairs, but are armed with stout cat's claw-like thorns. Leaves are compound with mostly five to nine leaflets, oval to elliptical (leaflets to 6 cm long), smooth above and usually finely hairy below and have toothed margins. The base of each leaf stalk (petiole) has paired appendages (stipules) fringed with gland-covered bristles.

FLOWERS AND FRUITS

May to June, September to October. Flowers are densely clustered at the branch tips or leaf axils (where leaf meets stem) in the upper and outer branches. White to light pink stalked flowers (1.5 to 2.5 cm) have five oval to heart-shaped petals. Fruits are red to purplish berry-like (hips), 6 to 12 mm in diameter.

HABITAT

Both wetland and upland forests, clearings and edge habitats.

SIMILAR SPECIES

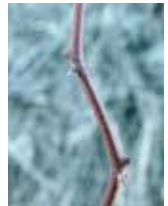
Rosa palustris, swamp rose, has light to dark pink flowers (not white) that are sometimes held solitary or only a few per flower cluster (versus many-flowered clusters for *R. multiflora*). The leaf bases are distinctly different with *R. palustris* having very narrow, wing-like appendages (stipules), while *R. multiflora* has fringed bristles on the stipule margins.



© C.W. Wood



© Arthur Haines



© Arthur Haines



© Glen Mittelhauser



© Jessica Schulze



© John Boback

Rosa multiflora



© Marilee Lovit

Rosa palustris