

Invasive Plant Management - An IPM Approach

8th International IPM Symposium, March 26, 2015



Donna Ellis
UConn
Department of Plant Science
& Landscape Architecture



Mile-a-minute Weed

Persicaria perfoliata

(formerly *Polygonum perfoliatum*)



Vines growing along a street in Westport, CT

Mile-a-minute Weed

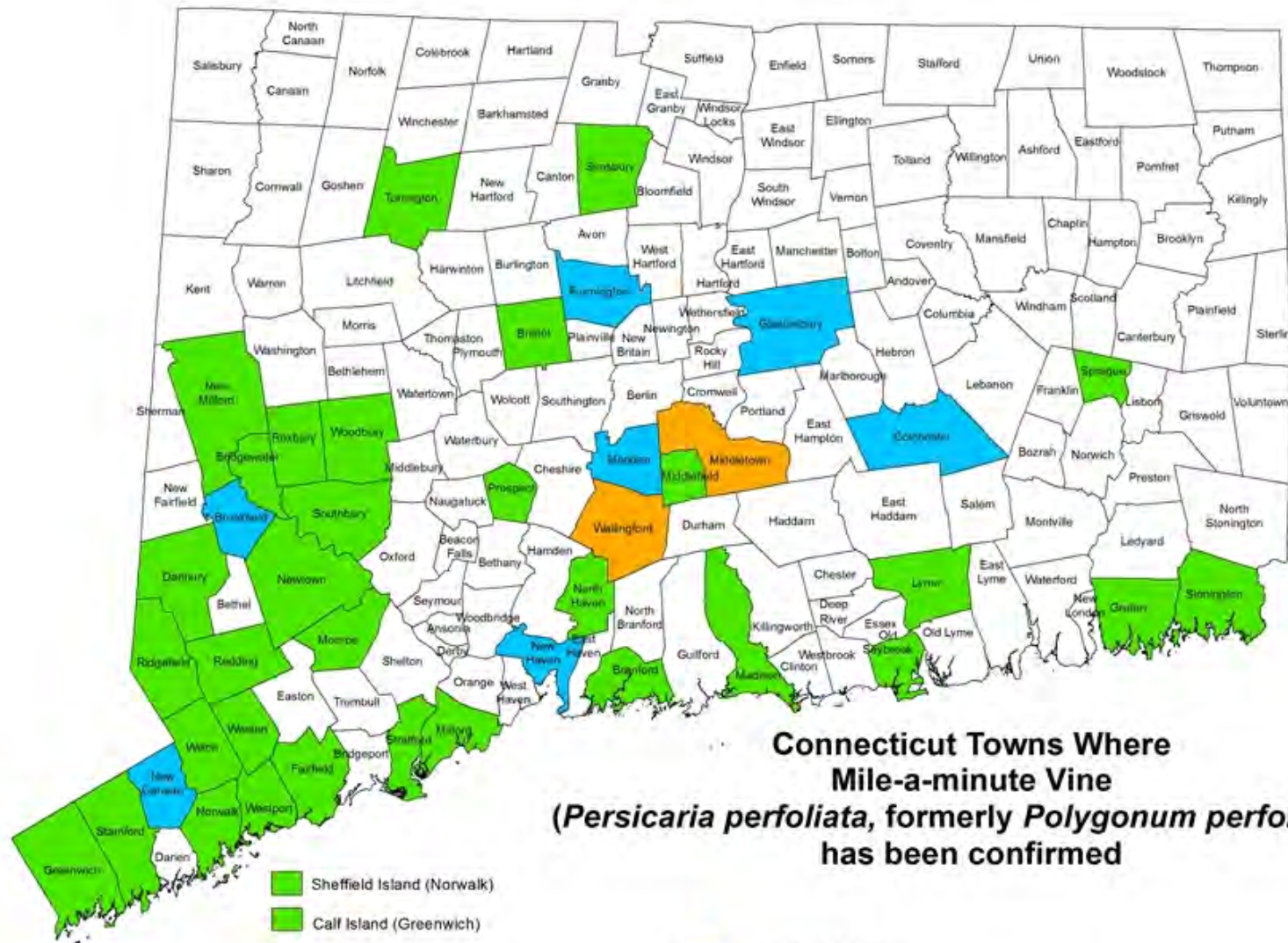
- Vines form dense barbed thatch
- Triangular leaves, saucer-shaped bracts
- Sharp spines on stems, under leaves
- Blue fruits in clusters
- Animal dispersed



2014

- Educational outreach
- Biological control project
- Survey areas near confirmed sites
- Pulling parties and other control methods





**Connecticut Towns Where
 Mile-a-minute Vine
 (*Persicaria perfoliata*, formerly *Polygonum perfoliatum*)
 has been confirmed**

Mile-a-minute Weed Biological Control

Mile-a-minute Weevil (*Rhinoncomimus latipes*)

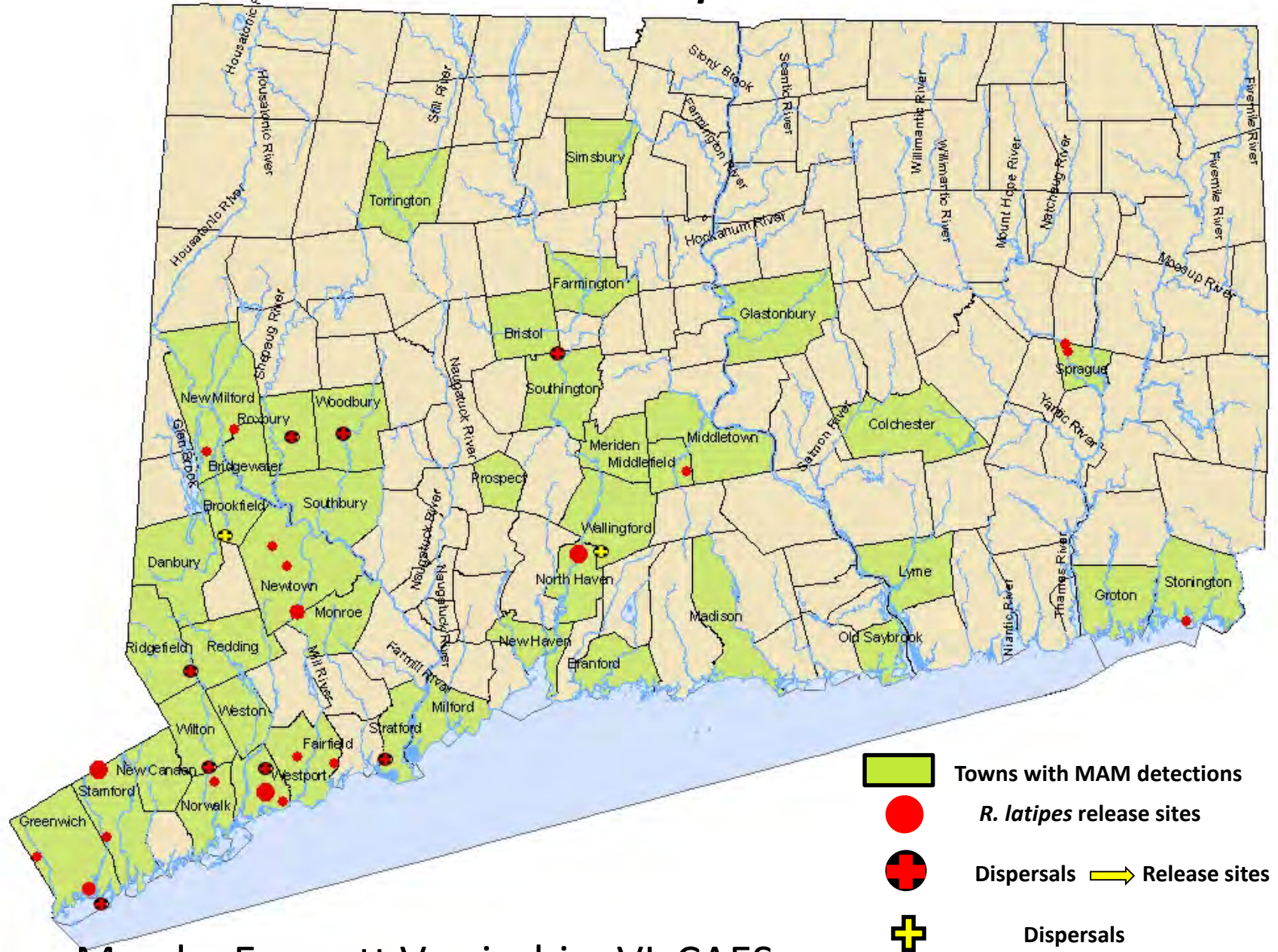
Donna Ellis (Univ. of CT) and Carole Cheah (CT Agricultural Experiment Station)

- Funded in part by USDA APHIS PPQ
- Weevils provided by NJ Dept. of Ag and Univ. of RI
- Widely distributed in mid-Atlantic since 2006
- 2009-14: 41,436 weevils released in CT in 18 towns



- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| - Bridgewater | - Roxbury |
| - Fairfield | - Southington |
| - Greenwich | - Sprague |
| - Middlefield | - Stamford |
| - New Milford | - Stonington |
| - Newtown | - Stratford |
| - North Haven | - Westport |
| - Norwalk | - Wilton |
| - Ridgefield | - Woodbury |

Connecticut *Rhinoncomimus latipes* release sites 2009-2014



Map by Emmett Varricchio, VL CAES

Greenwich



Sprague



North Haven



Stamford



Mile-a-minute Weed Biological Control 2009-2014

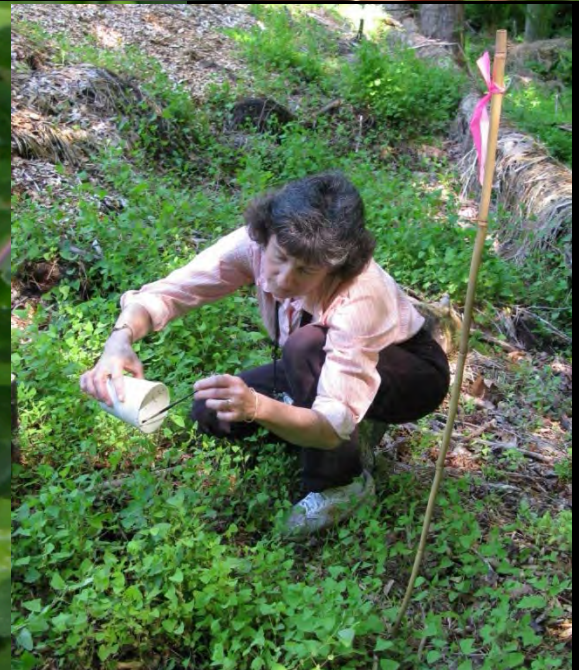


Adult weevil



Feeding damage





**Releasing beneficial weevils for
mile-a-minute biological control**



The weevils begin feeding on mile-a-minute leaves as soon as they are released.



Monitoring release sites



Mile-a-minute vine monitoring site



Mile-a-Minute Weed Biological Control Release Sites



Westport



**1,000
Weevils**



Mile-a-Minute Weed Biological Control Release Sites



Wilton



**1,000
Weevils**



Mile-a-Minute Weed Biological Control

Release Sites

Ridgefield

1,500
Weevils



Mile-a-Minute Weed Biological Control

Release Sites

Stratford

1,000

Weevils





**Feeding damage on mile-a-minute
vines by the beneficial weevils**



09/21/2010



Rhinoncomimus
weevil



10/13/2011



10/13/2011



10/13/2011

Pulling Parties Sprague 2011-2012



Carole Cheah shows the beneficial weevils to reporters before releasing them in Norwalk



06/15/2011

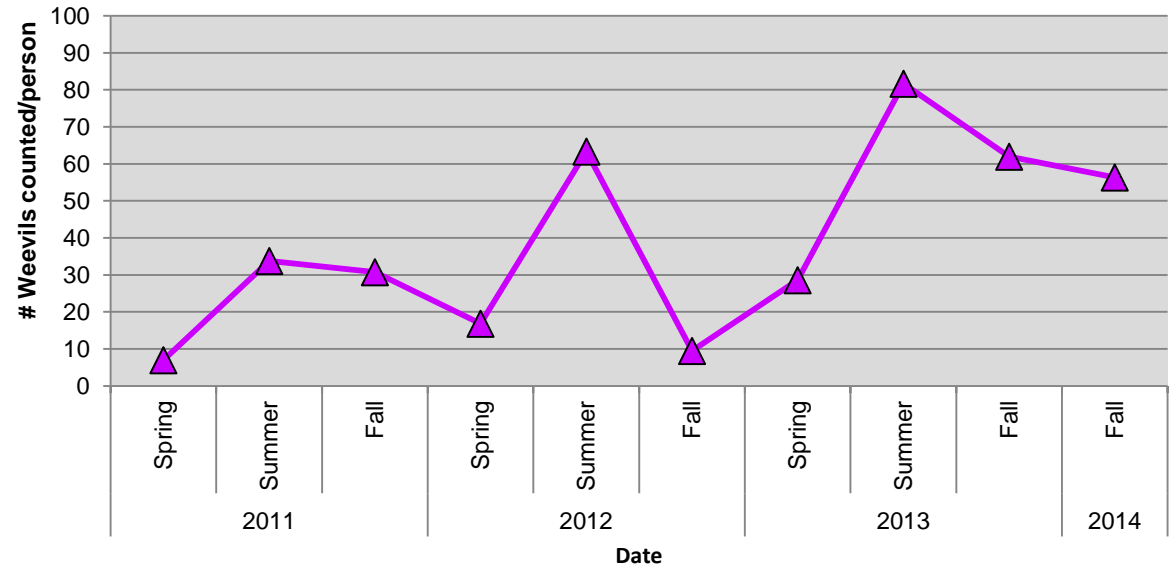
The Independent Day School, Middlefield Sept. 12, 2013



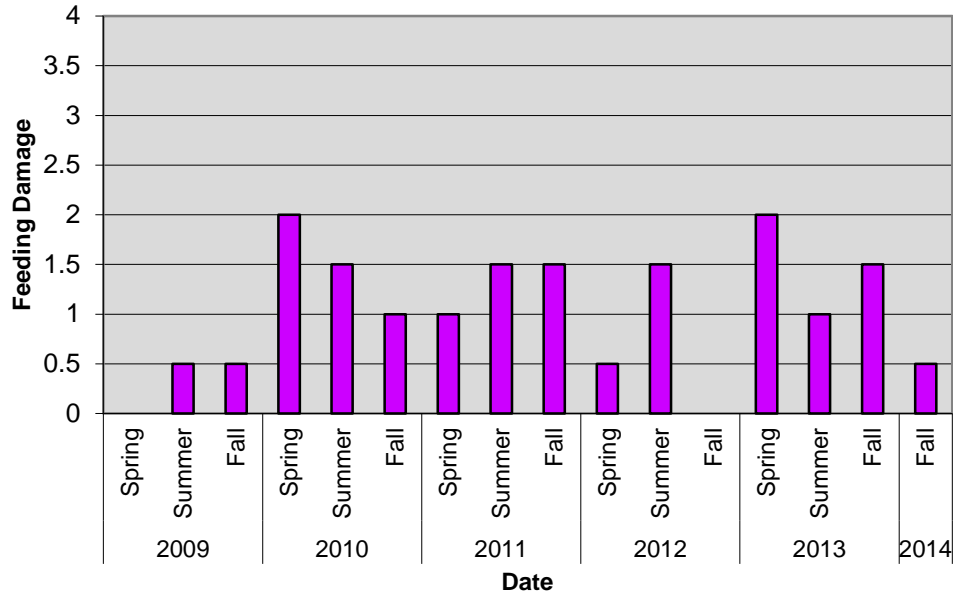
Bridgewater, CT



Weevil Prevalence from 5' Count for Bridgewater



Weevil Feeding Damage for Bridgewater



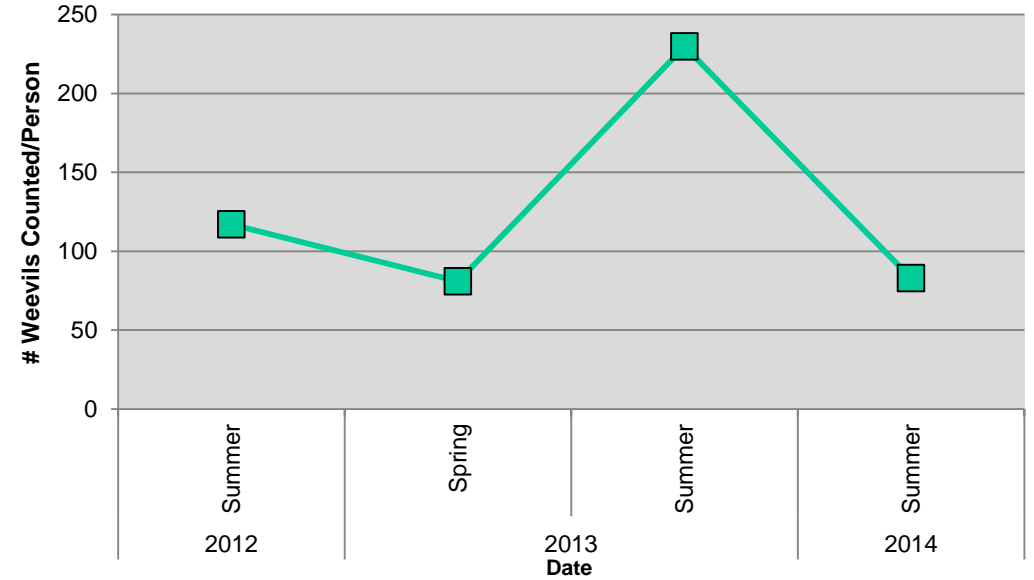
Feeding damage:
 0 = none
 1 = low
 2 = medium
 3 = high
 4 = defoliated



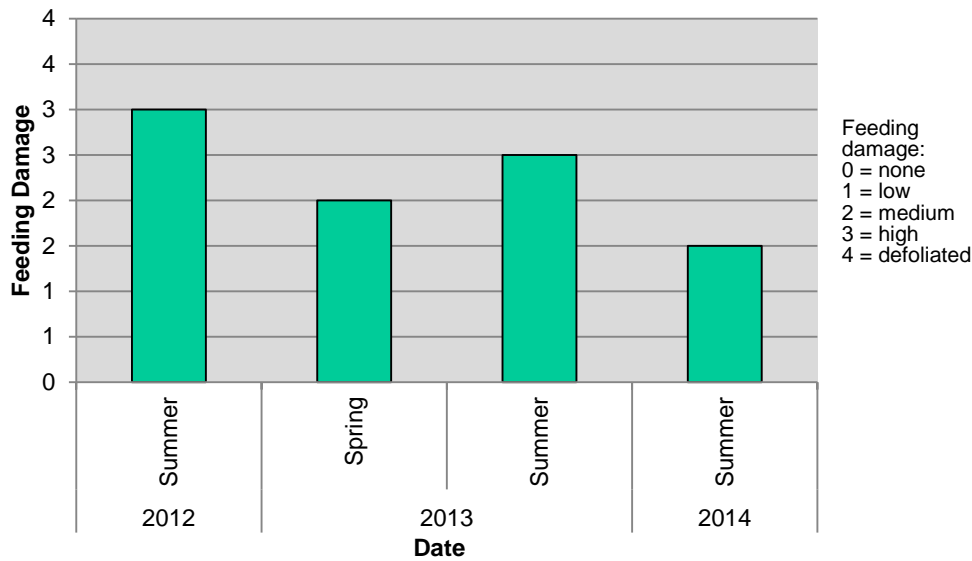
Stamford, CT



Weevil Prevalance from 5' Count for Stamford: Rockrimmon D



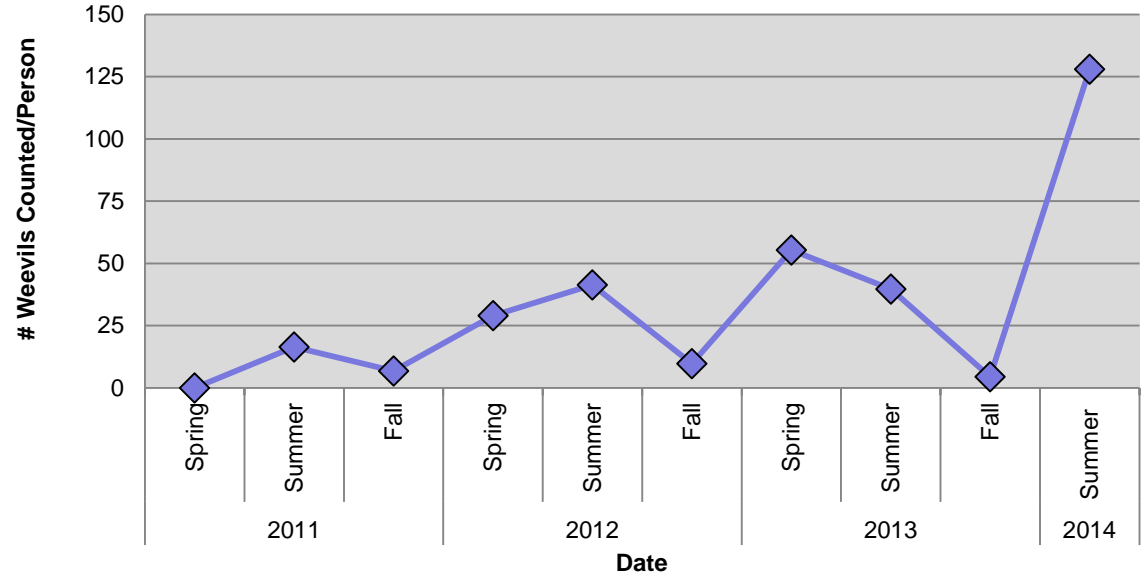
Weevil Feeding Damage for Stamford: Rockrimmon D



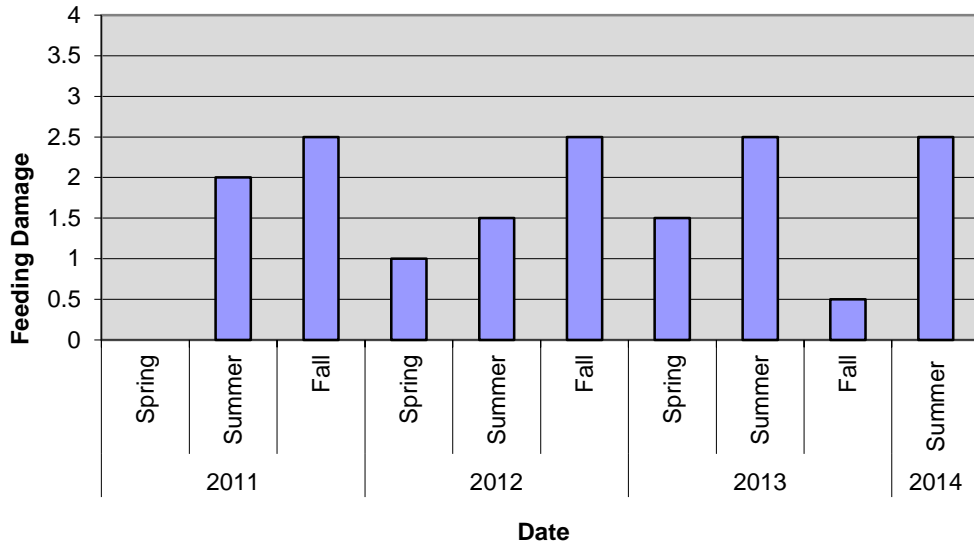
Greenwich, CT



Weevil Prevalence from 5' Count for Greenwich: Bruce Park



Weevil Feeding Damage for Greenwich: Bruce Park



Feeding damage:
 0 = none
 1 = low
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 3 = high
 4 = defoliated



Educational outreach materials available from UConn

WANTED

Mile-a-minute Vine (MAM)

(*Persicaria perfoliata*, formerly *Polygonum perfoliatum*)



Mile-a-minute Vine is a highly invasive annual weed spreading north and east across Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island. It outcompetes and overgrows native species, causing ecological and economic harm. It climbs and scrambles over trees and posts, shading out other plants (see photo at left). A single vine can grow up to 6 inches per day.

Please help us find, track and control this invasive plant.

THREE IDENTIFYING TRAITS:



1 Triangular leaves (often nearly equilateral)



2 Small curved barbs along stems

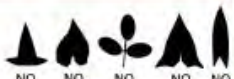


In summer, MAM fruits ripen from green to metallic blue



3 Saucer-shaped leaves (called ocrea) at stem nodes

Leaf shapes of other vines; these species do not harm ecosystems and should **not** be reported:



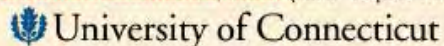
Photos courtesy of Todd Mervosh, Les Mehrhoff, Hope Leason, Judy Hough-Goldstein and Renée Sullivan

If you observe a plant with all 3 traits, note its location and report your findings:

Contact the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) at:
860-486-6448 (Donna Ellis, University of Connecticut)

-or-

Visit www.hort.uconn.edu/mam (click "Report MAM")



University of Connecticut

Mile-a-minute Vine (MAM)

Persicaria perfoliata, formerly *Polygonum perfoliatum*

1. Triangular leaves—no lobes or indentations



2. Small barbs along stems (fruits ripening to blue in summer)

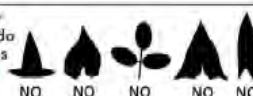


3. Saucer-shaped leaves (called ocrea) at nodes



LOOK AROUND YOUR YARD... Do you see this plant?

Leaf shapes of other vines; these species do not harm ecosystems and should **not** be reported:



Mile-a-minute Vine (Scientific name: *Persicaria perfoliata*) is a highly invasive annual weed spreading across Connecticut. It outcompetes and overgrows native species, causing ecological and economic harm. The vine scrambles over other vegetation and can climb trees and posts (see front). Mile-a-minute is deserving of its common name and its reputation as "the Kudzu of the North"—a single vine can grow up to **6 inches per day**. Mile-a-minute has been banned by the CT Legislature (Sec. 22a-381d of the CT General Statutes makes it illegal to transport, cultivate, sell or distribute the species), but populations are still spreading in natural areas and perhaps in your own backyard!

Please help us find, track and control this plant in Connecticut. With your help, we can organize and coordinate the removal of Mile-a-minute Vine before it becomes an even bigger and more costly problem. If you see a vine with **all three** of the characteristics on the front of this card—(1) triangular leaves, (2) small barbs on the stem, and (3) ocrea, **note its location** and **report your findings** using the contact information below.

Contact the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) at **860-486-6448** (Donna Ellis)
 -or-

visit www.hort.uconn.edu/mam (click "Report MAM")

For more information, please contact CIPWG or visit www.hort.uconn.edu/cipwg

Photos courtesy of Todd Mervosh, Les Mehrhoff, Hope Leason, Judy Hough-Goldstein and Renée Sullivan

Mile-a-minute vine information is available on the CT Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) website: www.mam.uconn.edu



University of
Connecticut

College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture

CIPWG HOME

Home

About mile-a-minute

Species Identification

Similar Species Guide

State Contacts

Distribution Information

MAM Resources

Biological Control

Control Options

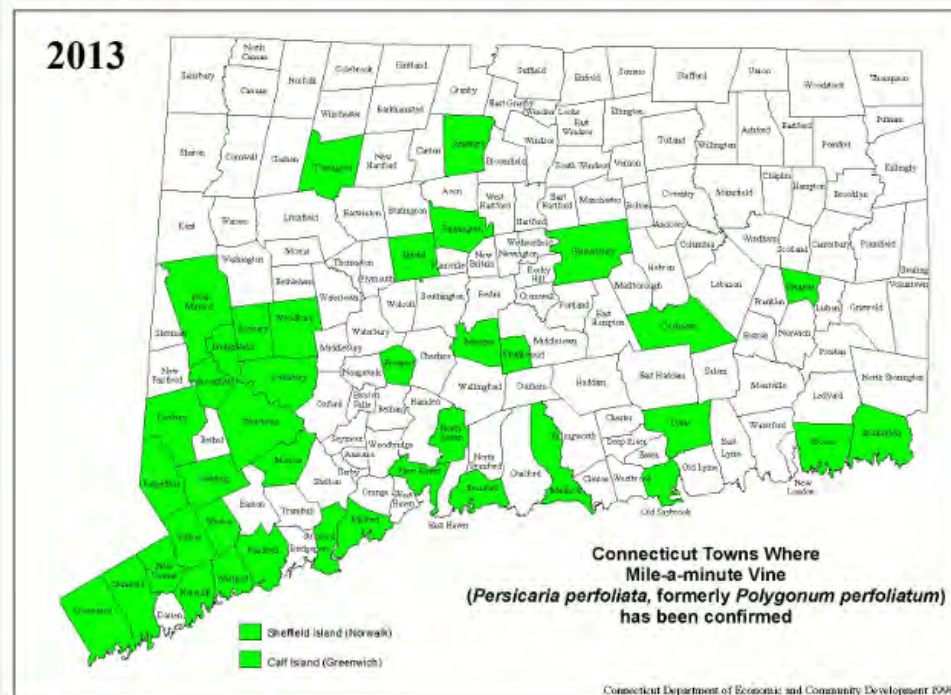
News Archive

*For the Press

Other Invasive Species

[Online Reporting Form](#)

Welcome to the CT mile-a-minute vine website!



This website serves as a central source of information, news, publications, and educational materials relating to mile-a-minute vine in the state of Connecticut.

For more information:

Donna Ellis

UConn Dept. of Plant Science & Landscape Architecture

donna.ellis@uconn.edu

860-486-6448

www.mam.uconn.edu

