

European Privet *Ligustrum vulgare*



Perennial semi-evergreen shrub or small tree to fifteen feet tall.

Common in all three counties.

Small white four-lobed tubular flowers growing in clusters at end of stems bloom from April to

June. Small quarter-inch, dark blue fruit ripen in Oct – Nov.

Invades forests, fields and roadsides. Can form dense thickets. Shade tolerant, but grows best with some sun.

Fruit is eaten by a wide variety of birds and mammals which aid in seed dispersal.

European Privet - Control Methods

Hand Pulling – Effective for seedlings and young plants. Care must be taken to remove the entire root system to prevent resprouting.

Mar - Nov; or anytime identification is possible.

Cut Stump – Cut stem 2 - 3 inches above the ground and apply a pre-mixed 50% solution of a water-soluble triclopyr amine with water to the stump immediately following cutting. Avoid run-off onto the soil.

Mar – Nov; best following full leaf expansion in spring.

Foliar Spray – A 2% solution of triclopyr in a 0.5% non-ionic surfactant is effective when applied in an even coat to all foliage. Spray until wet but before it begins to drip off the leaves.

Early Summer through Fall