

Bush Honeysuckle

Lonicera spp.



Deciduous shrubs to fifteen feet tall.

Three species widespread in all three counties.

White, two-lipped, tube-shaped flowers (turning yellow with age) bloom in May and early June. Red fruit ripe in Jun – Jul (Tartarian) or Sept to Nov.

Bush honeysuckles prefer open sunlight but may be found in forest edges, abandoned fields, pastures, roadsides and other open upland habitats. Morrow's honeysuckle is capable of invading fens, pond edges and other uncommon habitat types.

Bush Honeysuckle - Control Methods

Three bush honeysuckle species occur in Delaware: *L. mackii* Amur honeysuckle, *L. morrowii* Morrow's honeysuckle and *L. tatarica* Tartarian honeysuckle, each separated by minor differences in shape and hairiness of the leaves.

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 glyphosate 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