

# JAPANESE STILTGRASS

## Invasive Species Alert!

### IMPACTS OF JAPANESE STILTGRASS

Japanese Stiltgrass was likely introduced to North America as a packing material for porcelain. Favouring disturbed areas, it is a highly invasive, shade-tolerant, annual grass that spreads until it dominates forest, wetland, damp field, lawn, trail and roadside ditch habitats. Negative impacts include:



#### **degrading habitats**

as it produces dense, mat-like stands that replace native vegetation;



#### **decreasing biodiversity**

as it degrades native habitats and displaces wildlife, particularly ground-nesting birds and



#### **altering natural soil conditions**

inhibiting seed germination of other species as well as tree growth and survival.



Svetlana  
Nesterova,  
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### IDENTIFICATION

- ✓ Up to 1 m in length with many branches.
- ✓ Wiry stems are thin and delicate.
- ✓ Leaves are smooth, elongate and pale green with entire (smooth) edges.
- ✓ Leaves have a shiny, pale midrib and taper at both ends.
- ✓ Purple to tan-coloured in the autumn.

### REPORT



SCAN ME

Report sightings of Japanese Stiltgrass on-line or through the **EDDMapS** app.  
find • map • track

## DO...

- ✓ burn or dispose of non-native, invasive plants in sealed garbage bags.
- ✓ educate yourself regarding native and non-native plant species.
- ✓ plant only native species on your property (local seed sources are best).
- ✓ encourage local nurseries to sell native plant species.

## NATIVE ALTERNATIVES



Fungus Guy,  
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### CANADA ANEMONE *Anemone canadensis*

Canada Anemone displays white, showy flowers with yellow centres in early summer. It is a quick-spreading groundcover suited to sunny or partially-shaded, moist sites.

### VIRGINIA WATERLEAF *Hydrophyllum virginianum*

Virginia Waterleaf produces a cluster of white to lavender bell-shaped flowers from May to June. Its leaves appear water-stained, with a paler centre.



H. Zell,  
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Will Thomas,  
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### MAYAPPLE *Podophyllum peltatum*

Mayapples have a leaf that spreads like an umbrella. Its single, large, yellow-centred white blossom can be found underneath the canopy. Although its seeds are poisonous to eat, its fleshy fruits are edible.

## DON'T...

- ✗ buy, sell, trade or give away Japanese Stiltgrass.
- ✗ compost invasive plant species. Seeds and/or roots may survive and re-establish.