

Invasive Plant Atlas

of the United States


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garlic mustard

Alliaria petiolata (Bieb.) Cavara & Grande

USDA PLANTS Symbol: ALPE4
U.S. Nativity: Exotic
Habit: Forbs/Herbs

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Taxonomic Rank: Magnoliopsida: Capparales: Brassicaceae

Synonym(s): garlic-mustard, hedge garlic, sauce-alone, jack-by-the hedge, poor man's mustard, jack-n-the-bush, garlic root, garlicwort, mustard root

Native Range: Africa, temp. & trop. Asia, Europe (GRIN);

Garlic mustard is an herbaceous, biennial forb that is an aggressive invader of wooded areas throughout the eastern and middle United States. First-year plants are basal rosettes with green, heart-shaped, 1-6 in. (2.5-15.2 cm) long leaves. Second-year plants produce a 1-4 ft. (0.3-1.2 m) tall flowering stalk with small, white flowers in the early spring. Plants can be easily recognized by a garlic odor that is present when any part of the plant is crushed and by the strongly toothed, triangular leaves. A high shade tolerance allows this plant to invade high-quality, mature woodlands, where it can form dense stands. These stands not only shade out native understory flora but also produce allelopathic compounds that inhibit seed germination of other species. Garlic mustard is native to Europe and was first introduced into New England during the 1800s for medicinal and culinary purposes.

Identification, Biology, Control and Management Resources

Pest Alert - USDA Forest Service

Fact Sheet - Pennsylvania Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources

Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests - USDA Forest Service

Plant Invaders of Mid-Atlantic Natural Areas - National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Biological Control of Invasive Plants in the Eastern United States - USDA Forest Service

Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council Invasive Plant Manual - SE-EPPC

Invasive Plant Atlas of New England - University of Connecticut

Weeds Gone Wild: Alien Plant Invaders of Natural Areas - Plant Conservation Alliance

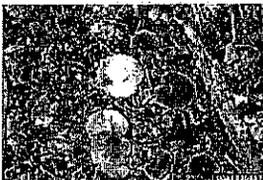
Element Stewardship Abstract - The Nature Conservancy

Fire Effects Information System - USDA Forest Service

Weed of the Week - USDA Forest Service

Selected Images from Invasive.org

[View All Images at Invasive.org](#)



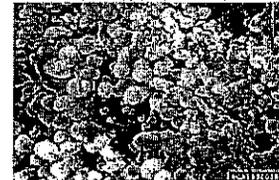
Foliage; 1st-year basal rosette.
 Clayton County, IA
 Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, Bugwood.org
 Additional Resolutions & Image Usage



Foliage; first year leaves
 Jill M. Sweering, USDI National Park Service,
 Bugwood.org
 Additional Resolutions & Image Usage



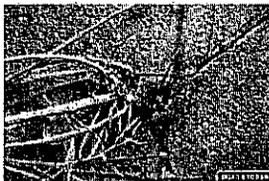
Plant(s); 1st year rosette
 Tom Heutte, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org
 Additional Resolutions & Image Usage



Infestation; 1st-year basal rosettes. Clayton County, IA
 Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, Bugwood.org
 Additional Resolutions & Image Usage



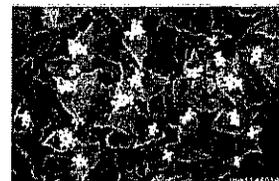
Foliage;
 Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, Bugwood.org
 Additional Resolutions & Image Usage



Feature(s); S-shaped crook at base of plant helps to distinguish this species. Martin County, KY
 Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, Bugwood.org
 Additional Resolutions & Image Usage



Flower(s);
 Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, Bugwood.org
 Additional Resolutions & Image Usage



Plant(s); in flower
 David Cappaer, Michigan State University,
 Bugwood.org
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Phlox stolonifera (creeping phlox)
Thelypteris noveboracensis (New York fern)
Tiarella cordifolia (heartleaf foamflower)

More Information on Native Plants at:
www.bepantwise.org

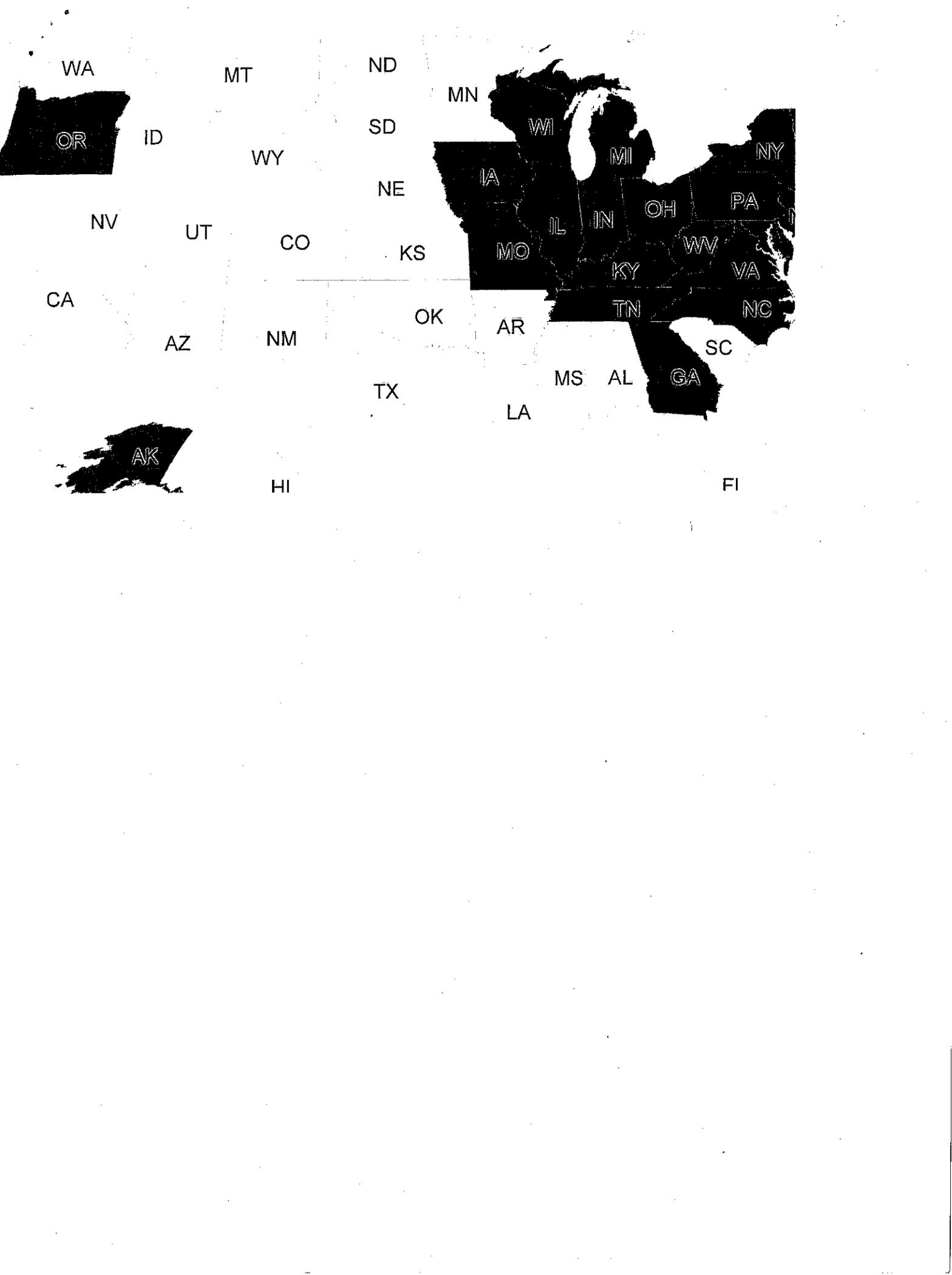
PlantWise is a partnership between the National Park Service, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, The Garden Club of America and The National Invasive Species Council to prevent harmful invasive plants from invading natural areas.

U.S. National Parks where reported invasive:

Acadia National Park (Maine)
 Antietam National Battlefield (Maryland)
 Blue Ridge Parkway (North Carolina)
 Catoctin Mountain Park (Maryland)
 Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (Maryland, Washington, D.C., and West Virginia)
 Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (Pennsylvania)
 George Washington Memorial Parkway (Virginia)
 Great Smoky Mountains National Park (North Carolina & Tennessee)
 Harpers Ferry National Historical Park (West Virginia)
 Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore (Indiana)
 Manassas National Battlefield Park (Virginia)
 Minute Man National Historical Park (Massachusetts)
 Monocacy National Battlefield Park (Maryland)
 National Capital Parks East (Washington, D.C.)
 Rock Creek National Park (Washington, D.C.)
 Saint Croix National Scenic Riverway (Wisconsin)
 Shenandoah National Park (Virginia)
 Stones River National Battlefield (Tennessee)
 Weir Farm National Historical Park (Connecticut)

Invasive Listing Sources:

Alabama Invasive Plant Council
 City of Ann Arbor Michigan Parks and Recreation
 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 1994.
 Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group
 Delaware Natural Resources and Environmental Control, 2004
 Faith Campbell, 1998. Plants that Hog the Garden: Invasive Plants in the United States. Fine Gardening Online
 Forest Service-Alaska, 2004
 Georgia Exotic Pest Plant Council
 Hoffman, R. & K. Kearns, Eds. 1997. Wisconsin manual of control recommendations for ecologically invasive plants. Wisconsin Dept. Natural Resources, Bureau of Endangered Resources. Madison, Wisconsin. 102pp.
 Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society
 Invasive Plant Council of New York State
 Jil M. Swearingen, Survey of invasive plants occurring on National Park Service lands, 2000-2007
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 Kentucky Exotic Pest Plant Council
 Maryland Cooperative Extension Service. 2003. Invasive Plant Control in Maryland. Home and Garden Information Center, Home and Garden Mimeo HG88. 4 pp.
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 Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council, 2005
 Missouri Department of Conservation,
 National Wildlife Refuge Association, Silent Invasion: A Call to Action from the National Wildlife Refuge Association, 2002. Washington DC. 17 pp.
 Native Plant Society of Oregon, 2002
 New Hampshire Invasive Species Committee. 2005. Guide to Invasive Upland Plant Species in New Hampshire. New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food Plant Industry Division and New Hampshire Invasive Species Committee.
 New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Plant Industry, 2004
 Pennypack Ecological Restoration Trust, Pennsylvania.
 South Carolina Exotic Pest Plant Council
 Tatyana Livschultz, Pennsylvania survey of invasive plants,
 Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council
 Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation,
 Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, 1999.



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