



Wild Garlic *Allium vineale* L.

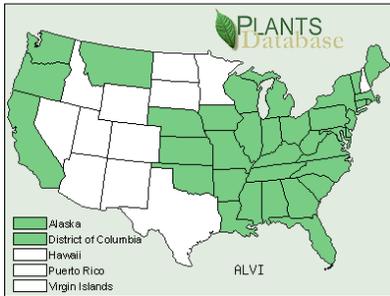
Common Names: field garlic, crow garlic, scallions, wild onion, wild garlic

Native Origin: Europe, north Africa and western Asia

Description: A perennial herb/forb in the lily family (*Liliaceae*) growing about 8 - 12 inches in height. Bright green tubular leaves arise from the main underground bulb in early spring. Later in the season, a few main stalks become large and produce flowers. Greenish-white to lavender, tubular flowers appear from May to July and are above aerial bulblets. Aerial bulblets at the top of the stem are oval, smooth with shiny covering and will often sprout while still on the plant. Seeds are black, flat on one side and about 1/8 inch long. The root system consists of short, fibrous roots developing from the bottom of underground bulbs. Plants have a strong garlic or onion odor when crushed. It reproduces from seed, aerial bulblets, and bulbs.



Habitat: It is located in a variety of disturbed habitats including waste ground, lawns, fields, thickets, roadsides, railroads right-of-ways, and along stream banks.



Distribution: This species is reported from states shaded on Plants Database map. It is reported invasive in CT, MD, NC, NJ, PA, TN, VA, and WV. It is listed on the Mid-Atlantic Exotic Pest Plant Council Plant List.

Ecological Impacts: This widespread nonnative species forms masses of vegetation replacing native species and spreading easily in disturbed habitats. Once established it is particularly persistent and hard to eradicate.

Control and Management: Infestations are difficult to control because the bulbs are hard to eliminate.



- **Manual-** Dig up plants with entire root system (leaves bulblets in the soil will increase the number of plants). Repeat every 2-3 weeks from late fall through spring for several years can prevent seed and aerial bulblets or seed production and help deplete bulb energy reserves.
- **Chemical-** It can be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as 2,4-D or dicamba before flowering. Metsulfuron-methyl products can also be applied during July/August when bulb exhaustion has occurred. Addition of a wetting agent is essential. Follow label and state requirements.

References: www.cas.vanderbilt.edu/bioimages/species/alvi.htm, <http://plants.usda.gov>, www.nps.gov/plants/alien, www.botany.wisc.edu/wisflora/scripts/detail.asp?SpCode=ALLVIN, www.alabamaplants.com/Bluealt/Allium_vineale_page.html, missouriplants.com/Bluealt/Allium_vineale_page.html, www.ag.uiuc.edu/~vista/html_pubs/WEEDS/46.html, http://invasives.eeb.uconn.edu/ipane/ipanespecies/current_inv.htm, www.cdfa.ca.gov/phpps/ipc/weedinfo/allium.htm