



Border Privet *Ligustrum obtusifolium* Sieb. & Zucc.

Common Names: border privet, blunt-leaved privet, regal privet

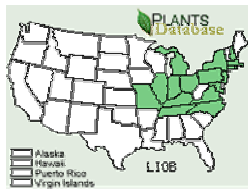
Native Origin: East Asia, Japan; introduced to North America as a common hedge in landscaping.

Description: Deciduous semi-evergreen, or evergreen shrub in the olive family (Oleaceae) that grows to 10 to 12 feet in height with spreading or arching stems. . Border privet is distinguished by its minutely pubescent twigs, by its pubescent leaf midrib, and by its flowering panicles which are about 1 to 2 inches in length. The deep green leaves are oblong-ovate in shape, opposite, and 1-2 inches long. Leaves turn red to purple in fall. Small white fragrant flowers, appearing in June, are grouped in panicles at the end of branch lets. The developing fruits (berry-like drupes) are green during the summer and turn blue-black when mature in the fall. The fruits persist long into the winter. This perennial shrub grows readily from seed or from root or stump sprouts



Habitat: It can be found in edge habitats, along roadsides, in open woods in old fields, in other disturbed habitats and in a variety of undisturbed natural areas.

Distribution: Connecticut, District of Columbia, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, and Virginia.



Ecological Impacts: This plant is capable of escaping to form dense thickets that can crowd out native species. It escapes from cultivation when the fruits are consumed by wildlife, particularly birds, which often excrete the seeds unharmed at distant locations where they may germinate and become established.



Control and Management:

- **Manual-** Mowing and cutting are appropriate for small populations or environmentally sensitive areas where herbicides cannot be used. Stems should be cut at least once per growing season as close to ground level as possible. Repeated mowing or cutting will control the spread.
- **Chemical-** Thoroughly wet all leaves with one of the following herbicides in water with a surfactant:
 August to September- imazapyr as a 1-percent solution or glyphosate as a 3-percent solution
 March to June- a glyphosate herbicide as a 3-percent solution.

For stems too tall for foliar sprays, apply triclopyr as a 20-percent solution in commercially available basal oil, diesel fuel, or kerosene as a basal spray or thinline application October through February. Follow label and state requirements.

References:

<http://plants.usda.gov>, www.invasive.org/eastern/srs/control.html,
http://horticulture.psu.edu/courses/hort138/up-open/print_images.htm
 Nature Conservancy Element Stewardship Abstract-
http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/esadocs/documnts/ligu_sp.html,
www.hort.uconn.edu/plants/l/ligobt/ligobt1.html,
<http://webapps.lib.uconn.edu/ipane/browsing.cfm?descriptionid=61>