

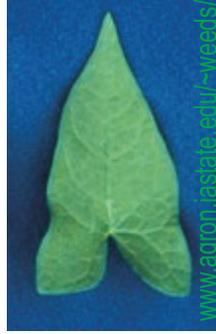
Morning glory is a perennial vine. It begins growing in late spring and can grow until the first frost. Flowers begin forming in late June and can continue for several months.



www.oseda.missouri.edu/

The tubular flowers of morning glory are white or pinkish in colour, and are formed by five petals fused together at the bottom, resembling a small trumpet.

The leaves are oblong and heart shaped in appearance and are alternate or opposite on the stem of the plant.



www.grownetwork.com/forums/

Other invasive species to keep an eye out for in the Lower Mainland include:

- Himalayan Blackberries
- Evergreen Blackberries
- Scotch Broom
- Himalayan Balsam
- English Ivy
- Japanese Knotweed
- Tansy Ragwort
- Reed Canary Grass
- Lamiastrum
- American Bullfrog

Invasive Species are Taking Over!!

An **invasive species** is a plant or animal living outside of its natural habitat that displays aggressive and rapid growth. Their incredible ability to reproduce, and the absence of natural predators, enables these invaders to quickly threaten natural ecological systems. Left unchecked, invasive species will out-compete native species and eventually become dominant. As a result,

So What Can We Do?

- **Educate** yourself and neighbours about invasive species found in your community;
- Use **native plants** in your yard;
- **Encourage** your community and local government to use native plants in landscaping;
- **Dig up** alien invaders from your backyard;
- **Minimize disturbance** of natural areas in your local parks by staying on the path and keeping dogs on leashes; and
- **Volunteer** with groups holding invasive species removal days in your community

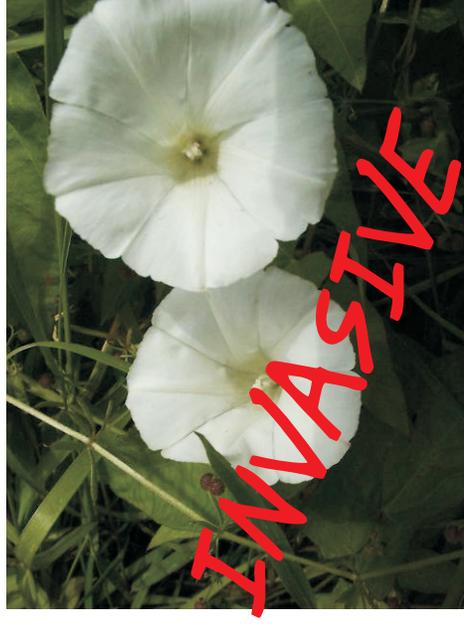
For more information please visit our web site at: www.leps.bc.ca



Printed on 100% recycled paper

Morning Glory

(*Convolvulus arvensis*)



www.lachlan.bluet haze.com.au/summer2000/

Morning glory is a beautiful but persistent perennial vine. It is native to Eurasia but has managed to spread to many countries all across the world, including the western provinces of Canada, largely due to the fact that it is commonly used in gardens. Morning glory is able to take over habitat by twining itself around native plants, eventually causing them to fall over. It has become a serious problem in farmers fields, toppling over their crops.

Habitat:

Morning glory is able to grow in a variety of climates and does very well at colonizing disturbed sites. It can be found in a wide range of habitats, including roadsides, ditches, streambanks and farmers fields.



Reproduction:

Morning glory is able to reproduce by seed, underground roots, and vegetatively with any part of the plant. The stems of the plants may twine together and can form dense mats, with each stem growing up to 1.5m long. The roots of the plant can grow as long as 6.5m, and extend deep into the soil,

Problems:

The dense mats which morning glory are able to form can choke out riparian areas along streambanks, degrading fish and wildlife habitat.

Native plant populations can be easily out-competed, resulting in an area of only morning glory, which lowers the diversity of the area.

Farmers fields can be overtaken, destroying crops and affecting the economy.

CONTROL

- The best time to control this plant is before June of each year, when the plants have not yet flowered.
- There are three components to controlling morning glory. The first is to remove as much of the plant as possible, both above and below ground, by hand pulling. The second is to plant native vegetation to compete with the morning glory for habitat. The third is to continuously monitor the area for new growth and sprouts of morning glory and remove them.
- Watch drainage ditches, streams, irrigated fields and other wet areas as new colonies are likely to become established there.
- **Chemical controls are not recommended as they will leach into the water and can have severe detrimental effects on ecosystems.**

Things to keep in mind:

- Proper disposal of plant material is important. Put all plant pieces in plastic bags and take the bags to a sanitary landfill site.
- Do not compost morning glory (or any other invasive species) because seeds may not be destroyed and the plants will continue to grow in your compost bin.
- Be aware: clothes and equipment may transport the small seeds to new areas.
- Keep site disturbance to a minimum. Morning glory readily colonizes disturbed sites.

Alternate plantings for Morning glory:

- Monkey flower
- Purple Coneflower
- Yarrow
- Columbine
- Native honeysuckle
- Phlox

