Lonicera japonica
JAPANESE HONEYSUCKLE
Caprifoliaceae

Common Synonyms: none

FLEPPC Category: 1
FDACS Listed Noxious Weed: No
IFAS Assessment
North INVASIVE
Central INVASIVE
South INVASIVE

USDA Hardiness Zone: 4a-9b
Growth Habit: Woody, twining vine
Origin: Japan

Description: Woody, evergreen, twining vine. Stems 25 to 36 m long. Younger stems red, slightly pubescent, and older stems have brown bark that peels. Leaves are oval, 3.7 cm long, opposite. Flowers are tubular, white turning yellow with age, fragrant. Fruits are black berries.

The native coral honeysuckle (Lonicera sempervirens) is similar to Japanese honeysuckle but differs in having leaves that the stem grows through, smooth stems, red flowers, and orange-red berries. Both species can grow together.

Habitat: Ruderal, open disturbed areas, and forests.

Florida Introduction Date: 1906
Control Methods: Mechanical: removal of vines by hand-pulling or hoeing is effective for small occurrences. Mowing can slow growth but may cause re-sprouting. Prescribed fire can help control Japanese honeysuckle in areas known to burn.
Chemical: Foliar (3-5% triclopyr amine, 1-3% glyphosate).

Useful Resources:

Comments: Colonizes in open areas quickly.