



# FOREST HEALTH

## Controlling Asian Bush Honeysuckle

### **Kansas Forest Service supports and encourages the removal of Asian Bush Honeysuckle from private and public lands.**

Asian bush honeysuckle is an invasive species that is slowly taking over various Kansas landscapes.

Asian bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera maackii*, *L. tatarica*, *L. morrowii*) is often found on disturbed sites, forest edges and interiors, floodplains, fields, pastures and roadsides. Populations range across much of the eastern third of Kansas, with significant local infestations across the state.

### **Negative Impacts of Bush Honeysuckle**

Asian bush honeysuckle out-competes native plants for sunlight and resources, which reduces species diversity. Species reduction negatively impacts wildlife habitat and decreases local ecosystem functionality.

### **Treatment Options**

Several treatment options exist. Multiple factors should be considered when treating Asian bush honeysuckle, including:

- Area of affected site
- Size of the bush honeysuckle within the stand
- Desired season for the treatment

Treatments fall into one of two categories: mechanical or chemical. No biological controls currently exist.

### **Mechanical Treatment**

Mechanical removal can be performed year-round, depending on ease of access to the site.

Hand pulling and removal of seedlings and small plants is effective in light infestations, but larger equipment may be needed for robust, dense stands of Asian bush honeysuckle.

### **Chemical Treatment**

Often used in combination with mechanical removal, chemical treatment is effective to control small to large areas of Asian bush honeysuckle.

There are several chemical treatment options that are highly effective:

- Spot spraying regrowth after mechanical removal
- Treatment of stems (basal bark spray, year round)
- Cut-stump treatment in late winter
- Backpack mistblower application in late fall

### **Backpack mistblowers are available for loan.**

Backpack mistblowers are available for loan at locations in Riley, Jefferson, Jackson, Doniphan, Franklin, Anderson and Osage Counties.

To learn more about treatment options for Asian bush honeysuckle, see the full publication on the K-State Research and Extension Bookstore.

### **[Economical Control of Bush Honeysuckle: Mist Blower Herbicide Application Method](#)**

For more information or to reserve a mistblower, contact:

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