

# Invasive Species Alert

## Kudzu

(*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*)

\*Not detected in Michigan\*

### Identification:

- Vines extend 32-100 feet, up to 30 vines/plant
- 6 foot long roots can weigh up to 400 lbs.
- Alternate, compound leaves with 3 broad leaflets
- Purple individual flowers grow in upright cluster in late summer



Photo: Jean-Marie Luginbuhl

**Habitat:** This climbing perennial vine can grow well under a wide variety of conditions and in various soil types. Preferred habitats are sunny and open areas.

**Native Range:** Australasia, Pacific islands, temperate and tropic Asia

**U.S. Distribution:** Kudzu primarily occurs in the southeastern states, with reports in North Dakota and Oregon.



Photo: Bill Johnson

**Local Concern:** Kudzu grows very rapidly once established, and tends to smother and shade out native plants.



Randy Cyr, Greentree, Bugwood.org

To report this species, visit [www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies](http://www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies) for contact information. Report online at [www.misin.msu.edu](http://www.misin.msu.edu) or download the MISIN smartphone app and report it from your phone