

RED HAILSTONE

Thladiantha dubia Bunge

Prohibited - Eradicate

Common Names

Golden Creeper

Life Cycle

Herbaceous perennial

Native Range

Russia, northern China, and Korea

Look-a-Likes

[Cucumbers \(pg 81\)](#)

Wild Yam

Habitat

Degraded landscapes, along railroad corridors, in cornfields and in eroded floodplain forests.

Means of Spread

In its native range, red hailstone can spread by seed or underground tubers. Tubers easily break off from rhizome and can float in water, spreading downstream. Only male vines have been found in Minnesota as of 2023, and spread is limited to tuber movement.



Identification

Plant - Herbaceous, perennial vine that is covered in downy hooked hairs with tendrils that grasp other plants and objects for support. Vines can grow up to 18 feet but above ground parts (vines) will die back to the ground each winter (after hard frost, in late autumn).

Leaves - Fine, simple, heart-shaped, irregularly toothed and arranged alternately with petioles up to 2 ½ inches long. Leaves can be 2 to 6 inches long by 1 ½ to 4 inches wide. Base of the leaf is deeply cordated.

Flower - Bell-shaped yellow or golden flowers, roughly an inch wide, with five petals fused at the base producing a tube.

Bloom Time - July to September

Seed and Fruit - Oblong berry that can grow around 2 inches long and covered in hairs. Skin is green and matures to a deep red color. Flesh inside is bright orange. Seeds are small, ⅙ inch by ¼ inch, ovate, and dark brown to black.

Root - Potato-like tuberous underground stems. Tubers can float and have a starchy white flesh.

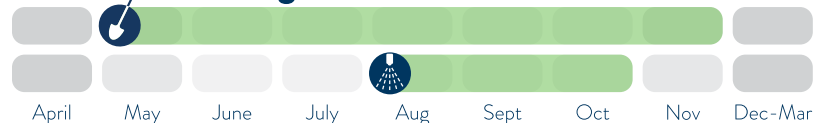
Management

Mechanical - Removing tubers in small infestations can control populations, but can easily break off so shouldn't be used for larger infestations. Mechanical removal for larger sites can increase chances of erosion, and multiple years of follow up is necessary.

Chemical - Foliar herbicide should be applied while plants are leafed out. Research on effective herbicide formulations and timing is limited at this time.



Treatment Timing



Red Hailstone

 Dig Plant
 Foliar Spray

Effective herbicide formulations: glyphosate, imazapyr, metsulfuron, triclopyr.