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# WHITE BRYONY (*Bryonia alba*)

Family: Cucurbitaceae (Gourd)	Life Cycle: Perennial
Class: B Designate - Control Required	AKA: Wild hop

COMMON NAME	DESCRIPTION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toxic to humans and livestock</li> <li>• Kudzu-like climbing growth can cover shrubs and trees</li> <li>• Dried roots have been used in traditional medicine, despite toxicity</li> <li>• Seeds in berries spread by birds</li> <li>• Native to Europe</li> </ul>	<p><b>Growth Traits:</b> Perennial herbaceous vine growing twelve or more feet long. Forms dense mats on open ground and grows over fence lines, shrubs and trees. Can completely grow over, shade out, and kill vegetation.</p> <p><b>Leaves and Stems:</b> Leaves are somewhat triangular with broadly toothed edges and three to five lobes. Leaves have small white glands on upper and lower surfaces. Stems vining, with tendrils growing at unbranched leaf axils. Tendrils clasp to surfaces, allowing white bryony to grow up and over structures and vegetation.</p> <p><b>Flowers:</b> Blooms mid-summer. Flowers small, greenish white with five to six petals. Male and female flowers separate, but grow together on same plant (monoecious). Clusters of flowers appear at upper leaf nodes.</p> <p><b>Roots and Reproduction:</b> Thick, yellow, fleshy roots. Spreads by seed. Seeds develop in smooth, round berries that go from green to purple-black as they mature. Berries contain three to six seeds. Berries dispersed by birds. Seed longevity is not well known.</p> <p><b>Habitat:</b> Grows in disturbed areas, along riparian corridors and roadsides.</p> <p><b>Toxicity:</b> Entire plant is toxic to humans and livestock; berries and roots contain higher rates of bryonin, the toxic agent. Juice from the plant can cause skin blisters, and if consumed toxins in the plant attack the digestive system and can be lethal.</p>
CONTROL METHODS	
<p><b>Mechanical:</b> Hand pulling is not effective at removing the root. Severing several inches below the root crown can be effective; ensure entire crown is removed and monitor for regrowth. Mowing is not effective and may not be possible depending on the site.</p> <p><b>Cultural:</b> Plastic mulching over crown may be effective, monitor edges for new growth.</p> <p><b>Biological:</b> There are currently no biological agents approved for release in Washington State.</p> <p><b>Chemical*:</b> Foliar treatment may be difficult if growing through desirable vegetation such as trees and shrubs. See table below for recommendations.</p>	

**\*ALWAYS read herbicide labels and follow instructions for use and PPE.** The use of a surfactant (aka sticker) increases the efficacy of herbicide application, saving you time and money. If treating over multiple seasons, rotate using herbicides with different modes of action to reduce likelihood of herbicide resistance developing. Below are recommended herbicides based on stage of growth and time of year. All recommendations are supplied with the understanding that no discrimination is intended and no endorsement by the Noxious Weed Board is implied. Trade names are used to simplify recommendations.

**NOTE:** There is no 'magic bullet' in noxious weed control, and control efforts must be repeated every season to stop their spread. Using a combination of methods (e.g. cultural and chemical) will lead to better control over time.

April - May Rosette, Seedling Stage	June - July Bolting, Bud, Bloom Stage	August - October Seeding, Fall Regrowth Stage
Cut stump treatment with full strength Roundup: Cut plants 3-4 inches below root crown and apply enough product to wet surface of the root.	Cut stump treatment with full strength Roundup: Cut plants 3-4 inches below root crown and apply enough product to wet surface of the root.	Cut stump treatment with full strength Roundup: Cut plants 3-4 inches below root crown and apply enough product to wet surface of the root.