



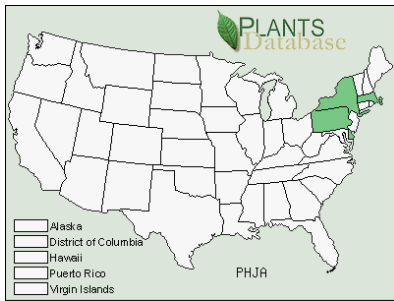
# Japanese Corktree

*Phellodendron japonicum* Maxim

**Common Names:** corktree, Japanese corktree

**Native Origin:** Eastern Asia

**Description:** A deciduous tree in the rue family (*Rutaceae*) with corky, furrowed bark. Trees grow 24 to 27 feet tall and resemble Amur corktree, *Phellodendron amurense*. Leaves are dark green, turning yellow to bronze-yellow in fall, and pinnately compound. Leaflets are alternate, 5-13 inches long, and glossy with regularly toothed margins. Flowers are yellow-green and appear in upright clusters in June. Male and female flowers grow on separate trees. Fleshy, black berries appear on female trees from fall into midwinter. Each loose cluster contains 5 seeds that are strongly scented. Trees reproduce by seeds.



**Habitat:** It grows in full sun and moist well drained soil. It adapts to many environmental conditions and can be found in disturbed forests.

**Distribution:** This species is reported from states shaded on Plants Database map. It is reported invasive in NJ.

**Ecological Impacts:** The Japanese corktree has escaped intentional plantings and is able to spread quickly by producing large amounts of seed.



The grayish-brown bark is furrowed and ridged.

**Control and Management:** Plant only male trees

- **Manual-** Hand pull seedlings, focus on reducing or stopping fruit production and spread
- **Chemical-** It can be effectively controlled using any of several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or triclopyr. Follow label and state requirements.

**References:** <http://plants.usda.gov>, [www.nps.gov/plants/alien/list/a.htm](http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/list/a.htm)  
Czarapata, Elizabeth J. Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest, an Illustrated Guide to their Identification and Control, 2005 p. 125, <http://images.google.com>  
[www.bio.brandeis.edu/fieldbio/Verrill\\_Wolf/pages/japanese\\_corktree.html](http://www.bio.brandeis.edu/fieldbio/Verrill_Wolf/pages/japanese_corktree.html)