Shrub Honeysuckles

Amur honeysuckle, *Lonicera maackki*

Morrow's honeysuckle, *Loniceria morrowii*

Tartanian honeysuckle, *Lonicera tatarica*
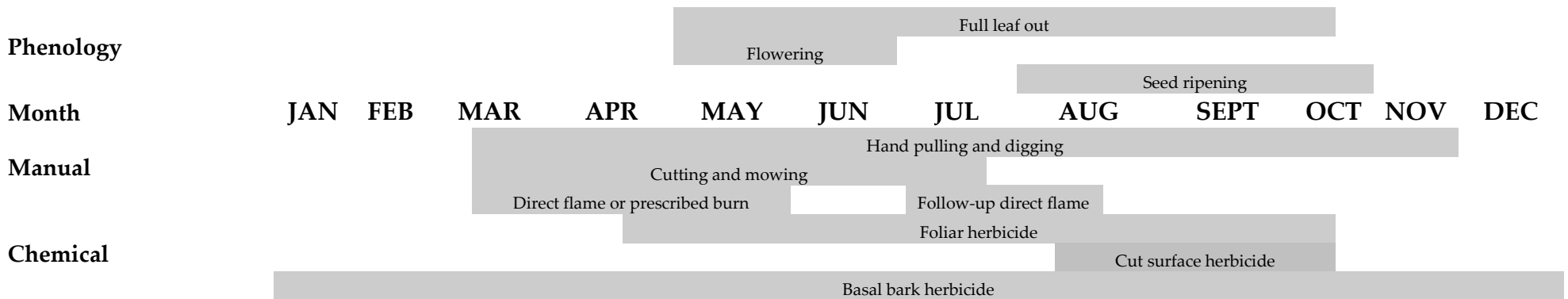
Bell's honeysuckle, *Lonicera x bella*

Species Biology and Phenology:

Habitat: Shrub honeysuckles can be found in forests, abandoned fields, open woodlands, and along roadsides and forest edges. They can also tolerate wet soils and invade places such as bogs, fens and lake shores. They are relatively shade tolerant but are more vigorous in full sun.

Reproductive Strategy: Shrub honeysuckles reproduce mainly by seed but some vegetative re-sprouting can occur in established populations. Plants mature between 3-5 years of age. Each plant produces thousands of berries as fruit, and each fruit contains 2-6 seeds. Seeds can remain viable for 3-5 years.

Dispersal: Seeds are mostly dispersed by birds that eat the berries. Despite providing the bird with feeling full, shrub honeysuckle berries provide little to no nutritional value for birds.

Species Phenology and Treatment Options:

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
Phenology					Flowering		Full leaf out		Seed ripening			
Manual			Hand pulling and digging		Cutting and mowing							
			Direct flame or prescribed burn				Follow-up direct flame					
Chemical		Basal bark herbicide					Foliar herbicide		Cut surface herbicide			

Summary of Treatment Methods:

Category	Method	Method Description	Considerations
MANUAL		Manual treatment can be highly effective for honeysuckle	
	Hand Pulling	• Pull entire plant by the base of the stem • Be sure to remove entire root system • If feasible and fruit is present, bag and dispose of fruits to prevent seed dispersal • Dry or burn all vegetation (most importantly roots) by hanging upside down on surrounding vegetation or piling into a brush pile and burning	• Effective on small-medium sized plants and small infestations • Most effective if done when soil is wet • Remaining portions of roots system not removed can re-sprout • Avoid dragging or piling pulled plants into an area that is currently uninfested
	Weed Wrenching/Honeysuckle Popper	• Remove plant by the base of the stem • Be sure to remove entire root system • If feasible and fruit is present, bag and dispose of fruits to prevent seed dispersal • Dry or burn all vegetation (most importantly roots) by hanging upside down on surrounding vegetation or piling into a brush pile and burning	• Can be more helpful than pulling larger plants
	Mowing/ Cutting	• Use lopper, pruning shears, weed whacker/brush saw or mower to cut the stem as close to the ground as possible • Cut at least 1 times during growing season (mid May-October) • Repeat for 3-5 years	• Cutting/mowing can help slow the spread of honeysuckle • Cutting/mowing will encourage re-sprouting and may need to be conducted for 3-5 years to fully exhaust root system and kill plant • Most effective if followed with foliar herbicide application
	Grazing	Grazing goats or other heard animals might be a viable treatment option. More research is needed.	
	Flame Weeding	Might be a viable treatment option for this plant, especially for young plants or sprouts of cut plants. More research is needed.	
CHEMICAL		Active ingredient commonly used in herbicides: glyphosate or triclopyr	
	Foliar Application	*If foliar spraying only:* • Foliar spray when plant is fully leafed out (May-October) • Spray leaf surfaces with low volume backpack sprayer, or high volume mist blower	*Low Volume Backpack Sprayer* • Herbicides (active ingredient): glyphosate or triclopyr with surfactant • Used to target honeysuckle plants and minimize drift to desirable species

		If cutting and foliar spraying: • Use lopper, pruning shears, weed whacker/brush saw or mower to cut the stem as close to the ground as possible • Cut during early growing season (April and May) • Spray sprouts with a low volume backpack sprayer during late growing season (September and October) or the following year	*Low Volume Motorized Mist Blower* • Herbicides (active ingredient): glyphosate or triclopyr with surfactant • Used for very larger and dense infestations that have little desirable, native vegetation that will be damaged by drift
	Cut Stump	• Cut stems 2-4" above the ground in late summer to early fall • Apply herbicide immediately after cutting the exposed surface using a sponge, brush, hand-held squirt bottle or directly pouring • Apply herbicide to at least the outer 20% of the surface • Monitor and do follow up treatment the following year and as necessary	• Herbicides (active ingredient): glyphosate or triclopyr mixed with surfactant
	Basal Bark	• Us a low pressure, low volume backpack sprayer • Apply herbicide around the entire circumference of the lower 8-18" of individual stems of the plant and include the root collar • Larger stems require the larger (18") treated area • Do not spray to the point of runoff	• Herbicides (active ingredient): triclopyr in an oil or oil-water mixture • Recommended for scattered or light infestations of large plants • Used to target honeysuckle plants and minimize drift to desirable species
	Cut Surface	• Cut stems 2-4" above the ground • Apply herbicide up to one month following cutting using a sprayer, hand-held squirt bottle or directly pouring • Apply herbicide around the entire circumference of the cut surface until wet • Do not apply herbicide until the point of runoff	• Herbicides (active ingredient): triclopyr in an oil or oil-water mixture • Recommended for scattered or light infestations of large plants • Used to target honeysuckle plants and minimize drift to desirable species