

# WHITE BRYONY

*Bryonia alba*

Cucurbitaceae, the cucumber family

Category: Containment

## FACTSHEET INFORMATION

### Summary of Invasiveness

- White bryony is a vine that climbs vertically and horizontally via tendrils and can form dense mats that blankets and shades out all vegetation it grows upon.
- It can develop into destructive populations in urban, rural, and forest communities.
- All parts of the plant are poisonous, however the roots and berries are especially toxic to humans and livestock.

### Description

- Perennial vine grows up to 12 feet long and can grow 6 inches per day.
- Roots are thick and fleshy and resemble a large turnip.
- Leaves up to 5 inches in length are palmately 5-lobed, triangular, and rough to the touch.
- Greenish-white, 5-petaled flowers are 1/2 inch across, and are found clustered in leaf axils.
- Seeds are encased in berries that turn black at maturity.

### Introduction and Movement

- Native to Europe and Northern Iran. Thought to have been introduced as a medicinal plant used as a remedy for body-aches, urinary tract infections, bruises, alcoholism, and brain disorders.
- Reproduces from seed and can also re-sprout from roots. Birds are the main vector for movement and spread.

### Prevention Strategy

- To prevent accidental introductions, learn how to identify White bryony and eradicate infestations on your property.
- When gardening, always research plants before planting and purchase seeds from licensed nurseries.
- Always remove and properly dispose of all seed and plant materials on vehicles, clothing, shoes and pets before you exit or enter outdoor recreational sites.
- Use care when removing plant materials as all parts of the plant are poisonous. Contact your county weed superintendent for eradication options.
- Always Remember To: **KNOW WHAT YOU GROW**

**& KNOCK IT OFF!**

#### Sources

- CABI Invasive Species Compendium: <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/112827>
- Idaho's Noxious Weeds 9th Edition, University of Idaho: <http://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL816.pdf>.



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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: [INVASIVESPECIES.IDAHO.GOV](http://INVASIVESPECIES.IDAHO.GOV)  
TO REPORT INVASIVE SPECIES IN IDAHO, PLEASE CALL 1-877-336-8676.

# WHITE BRYONY

## DISTRIBUTION MAP

