



## Black and Pale Swallow-wort

*Vincetoxicum nigrum* and *Vincetoxicum rossicum*

### Swallow wort was brought here from Eurasia

- Fast growing slender vines grow on forest edges or in fields
- Vines are very strong and create a intertwined mat
- Swallow wort is listed as toxic to horses however local equestrians report that horses don't like to eat it.
- Mature plants make large number of airborne seeds in milkweed like pods which the wind can disperse long distances
- Damages hay crops by invading hay fields
- Lure Monarch Butterflies into laying eggs but won't reproduce



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### Eradication

- Unlike most invasives, Swallow wort is stimulated by cutting, pulling, mowing and burning
- Chemical herbicide is the only way to control. Glyphosate and Triclopyr are most commonly used
- Plants emerge early in spring and flower by mid June before making milkweed like seed pods
- Herbicide treatment in late May or early June is most effective. Later treatment allows seed pods to form
- Follow up treatment annually for several years until seed bank is exhausted