

*Ligustrum vulgare* [简体中文](#) [正體中文](#)

**System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Scrophulariales	Oleaceae

**Common name** aitalikusteri (English), gewone liguster (English), golden privet (English), common privet (English), wild privet (English), European privet (English)

**Synonym** *Olea humilis* , Salisb.  
*Ligustrum italicum* , Mill

**Similar species** *Ilex glabra*

**Summary** Native to Europe and northern Africa, *Ligustrum vulgare* is a shrub that grows in sandy, loamy and clay soils. *Ligustrum vulgare* is a perennial shrub that has a maximum height of 4.5 metres and has many branches that flower. *Ligustrum vulgare* displaces native vegetation by forming dense thickets. Herbicides have been used to control *Ligustrum vulgare* when the plants are large but the most effective control method is to dig the plants out when they are small.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

## Species Description

UConn (Undated) states that *Ligustrum vulgare* is a medium-sized deciduous shrub that is stout and multibranched. The leaves of *L. vulgare* can be oval or elliptical. They range from 2.5-6.35cm (1-2.5 in) and are dark green, glossy, and waxy in appearance. The leaves have a smooth edge and grow opposite each other on the stem (PDEP, 2004). In the fall the leaves turn purple (PDEP, 2004; UConn, undated). At the end of the branches you will find white flowers in a cluster with a strong fragrance. The bark of *L. vulgare* is smooth and gray-brown. The height of this plant averages 4.5m (PDEP, 2004). The flowers of the shrub are white, terminal panicles. They have lengths of 2.5-7.6cm (1-3 in). The fruit produced by *L. Vulgare* are small, black berries. These will form in late summer and early fall (PDEP, 2004).

## Notes

*Ligustrum vulgare* is known to attract wildlife (PFAF, 2004). Dense thickets of *L. vulgare* provide cover for birds (PFAF, 2004). *L. vulgare* provides food for many caterpillars.

## Lifecycle Stages

*Ligustrum vulgare* is a perennial shrub which means that it lives for more than two years (USDA, 2007).

## Uses

*Ligustrum vulgare* is most commonly used as a landscape plant (PDEP, 2004) such as a hedge or border (UConn, undated). Its wood has been used to make charcoal and its young twigs have been used in basketry and hurdle making (PFAF, 2004).

## Habitat Description

According to PFAF (2004), *Ligustrum vulgare* prefers sandy, loamy, and clay soils. The shrub tends to grow in places with some shade and others with no shade. It can live in dry or moist soils and can tolerate drought and maritime exposure (PFAF, 2004).

## Reproduction

The flowers are hermaphroditic (have both male and female parts) and are pollinated by insects (PFAF, 2004).

## General Impacts

Richburget *al* (2001) states that *Ligustrum vulgare* displaces native vegetation by forming dense thickets.

## Management Info

Physical When *Ligustrum vulgare* is small, dig or pull up the roots. The problem associated with this method though is the soil will be disturbed and could make it easy for another infestation. There should be no roots left in the ground.

Chemical Larger *L. vulgare* need to be cut and the herbicide glyphosate should be applied to the stump (PDEP, 2004).

## Principal source:

**Compiler:** National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) & IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

## Review:

**Publication date:** 2007-08-03

## ALIEN RANGE

[1] AUSTRALIA

[35] UNITED STATES

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

13 references found for *Ligustrum vulgare*

### Management information

Richburg, J.A., A.C. Dibble, and W.A. Patterson, III. 2001. Woody invasive species and their role in altering fire regimes of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states. Pages 104-111 in K.E.M. Galley and T.P. Wilson (eds.). *Proceedings of the Invasive Species Workshop: the Role of Fire in the Control and Spread of Invasive Species. Fire Conference 2000: the First National Congress on Fire Ecology, Prevention, and Management. Miscellaneous Publication No. 11, Tall Timbers Research Station, Tallahassee, FL.*

**Summary:** This paper describes control mechanisms for multiple native and nonnative woody species. They review current management strategies while trying to open the door for new management strategies.

Available from: [http://jfsp.nifc.gov/invasive%20publications/ttrs\\_22pr\\_09\\_104\\_111\\_c.pdf](http://jfsp.nifc.gov/invasive%20publications/ttrs_22pr_09_104_111_c.pdf) [Accessed March 29, 2007]

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PDEP). 2004. Pennsylvania field Guide: Common Invasive Plants in Riparian Areas. 1-29.

**Summary:** This article gives information on the most significant invasive species in Pennsylvania.

### General information

Cox, G.W. 2001. An Inventory and Analysis of the Alien Plant Flora of New Mexico. *The New Mexico Botanist*. 17:1-7.

**Summary:** This article gives information on the alien flora of New Mexico. It gives a complete list of species known to be aliens in new Mexico.

Available from: <http://web.nmsu.edu/~kallred/herbweb/17pdf.pdf> [Accessed March 19, 2007]

Department of Primary Industries, 2007. European Privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*) in Victoria. Victorian Resources Online. Government of Victoria

**Summary:** Gives a brief description of where *Ligustrum vulgare* is found in Australia.

Available from: [http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/weeds\\_shrubs\\_european\\_privet](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/weeds_shrubs_european_privet) [Accessed March 29, 2007]

Hear.org. Undated. The Global Compendium of Weeds: *Ligustrum vulgare*.

**Summary:** This website gives synonyms as well as common names and origin of a species.

Available from: <http://www.hear.org/gcw/html/autogend/species/11409.HTM> [Accessed March 29, 2007]

Hunter, J.C., J.A. Mattice. 2002. The Spread of Woody Exotics into the Forests of a Northeastern Landscape, 1938-1999. *Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society*. 129(3): 220-227.

**Summary:** This article discusses how species spread in the northeastern United States.

[Invasive and Exotic Species. 2006. \*Ligustrum vulgare\*.](#)

**Summary:** This website gives a brief description of *Ligustrum vulgare*.

Available from: <http://www.invasive.org/browse/subject.cfm?sub=3036> [Accessed March 29, 2007]

[ITIS \(Integrated Taxonomic Information System\). 2006. Online Database \*Ligustrum vulgare\*.](#)

**Summary:** An online database that provides taxonomic information, common names, synonyms and geographical jurisdiction of a species. In addition links are provided to retrieve biological records and collection information from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Data Portal and Bioscience from BioOne journals.

Available from: [http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search\\_topic=TSN&search\\_value=163792](http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=163792) [Accessed March 19, 2007]

[Plant Conservation Alliance \(PCA\). 2006. Alien Plant Invaders of Natural Areas. \*Ligustrum vulgare\*.](#)

**Summary:** This website gives common names for species as well as which U.S. states they exist in and the national parks in which they reside.

Available from: <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/list/l.htm> [Accessed March 29, 2007]

[Plants for a Future \(PFAF\). 2004. \*Ligustrum vulgare\* - L.](#)

**Summary:** This website gives a full description of *Ligustrum vulgare*.

Available from: <http://www.pfaf.org/database/plants.php?Ligustrum+vulgare> [Accessed March 29, 2007]

[United States Department of Agriculture \(USDA\). 2007. \*Ligustrum vulgare\*.](#)

**Summary:** This website gives the distribution and taxonomy of *Ligustrum vulgare*.

Available from: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=LIVU> [Accessed March 29, 2007]

[University of Connecticut \(UConn\). Undated. \*Ligustrum vulgare\*.](#)

**Summary:** This website gives detailed information on the plant's habitat, foliage, flowers and fruit.

Available from: <http://www.hort.uconn.edu/Plants/l/ligvul/ligvul1.html> [Accessed March 29, 2007]

[University of Idaho \(UIdaho\). Undated. Plant Viruses Online: Known Viruses of Oleaceae.](#)

**Summary:** Gives synonyms, common names, and viruses that can harm the species.

Available from: <http://image.fs.uidaho.edu/vide/famly092.htm#Ligustrum%20vulgare> [Accessed March 29, 2007]