GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: ***Robinia pseudoacacia***

Robinia pseudoacacia 简体中文 正體中文 **System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Fabales	Fabaceae

Common name robinia akacjowa (Polish), yellow locust (English), false acacia (English), black locust (English), Post locust (English), robinier faux-acacia (French, France)

Synonym *Robinia pseudoacacia* , var. *rectissima* (L.) Raber

Similar species *Gleditsia triacanthos, Sophora japonica*

Summary Robinia pseudoacacia is a leguminous deciduous tree native to the southeastern United States that has been widely introduced to other parts of North America. It is commonly found in disturbed areas such as old fields, degraded woods, forest edges, and roadsides, but it poses the greatest threat to dry and sand prairies and oak savannas. R. pseudoacacia has been planted on reclaimed land to control erosion and has been used for ornamental purposes. It reproduces vigorously by root suckering and stump sprouting to form groves of trees interconnected by a common root system.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Species Description
R. pseudoacacia is described as a leguminous deciduous tree that grows from 30 to 80 feet tall. Young saplings have smooth, green bark; older trees have deep, furrowed, shaggy, dark bark with flat-topped ridges. Leaves are alternate and pinnately compound with 7 to 21 leaflets. Leaflets are thin, elliptical, dark green above, and pale beneath. Flowers are pea-like, fragrant, white to yellow, and born in large, drooping racemes. Seed pods are shiny, smooth, narrow, flat, 5cms to 10cms long, and contain 4 to 8 seeds (DNR, 2003). Smaller branches are armed with a pair of setaceous stipules, or stipular spines, that occur at the base of each petiole. These stipular spines are very pronounced on resprouts, and make working among these plants somewhat hazardous (Gover, pers. comm., 2004).

Lifecycle Stages
According to Converse (1984), *R. pseudoacacia* is a good seed producer, with heavy seed crops at 1- or 2- year intervals and light crops in the intervening years. Best seed crops occur when the trees are between 15 and 40 years of age, but some trees will bear at 6 years and some as late as 60 years.

Uses
DNR (2003) states that the wood of *R. pseudoacacia* is valued for its durability and high fuel value, and the tree also provides good forage for bees. *R. pseudoacacia* is planted on reclaimed land to control erosion and has been used for ornamental purposes.

Habitat Description
R. pseudoacacia is an early successional plant, preferring full sun, well drained soils, and little competition. It invades dry and sand prairies, oak savannas, and upland forest edges. *R. pseudoacacia* is commonly found in disturbed areas such as old fields, degraded woods, and roadsides (Weiseler, 1998).

Reproduction
Wieseler (1998) states that *R. pseudoacacia* reproduces vigorously by root suckering and stump sprouting to form groves (or clones) of trees interconnected by a common fibrous root system.

General Impacts
Once introduced, *R. pseudoacacia* expands readily into areas where their shade reduces competition from other (sun-loving) plants. Dense clones of *R. pseudoacacia* create shaded islands with little ground vegetation. Lack of ground fuel limits the use of fire in natural disturbance regimes. The large, fragrant blossoms of *R. pseudoacacia* compete with native plants for pollinating bees.

Management Info
R. pseudoacacia produces shoots from its root system, so any control effort should be targeted against the roots (Art Gover Aliens-L., 2002).
For details on management of this species, please see *management information*

Pathway
According to OPLIN (2001), *R. pseudoacacia* is planted on reclaimed land and to control erosion.According to OPLIN (2001), *R. pseudoacacia* has been used for ornamental purposes.

Principal source: *Black Locust* (Wieseler, 1998)

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

Review: Art Gover, PENNDOT Roadside Vegetation Management Project. Department of Horticulture, The Pennsylvania State University USA

Pubblication date: 2005-06-17

ALIEN RANGE

[4] CANADA
[1] CZECH REPUBLIC
[1] FRANCE
[1] GIBRALTAR
[2] ITALY
[1] POLAND
[1] ROMANIA
[1] SWAZILAND
[1] TURKEY
[32] UNITED STATES
[1] CYPRUS
[1] EUROPE
[1] GERMANY
[1] HUNGARY
[1] KOREA, REPUBLIC OF
[1] REUNION
[1] SPAIN
[1] SWITZERLAND
[1] UNITED KINGDOM

Red List assessed species 1: LC = 1;

Pulsatilla grandis **LC**

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General information

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