

We need your vigilance and help to stop the spread of this species.

HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Check your dog, shoes and clothing for seeds after walks - put seeds securely in the trash, not leaving them on the ground - treat the seeds like "nuclear waste"

Get this plant out of your yard, pull it or dig it out by the roots, we do not advise using toxic chemicals that kill so many other things and poison our environment, but cutting and treating the stems carefully with *one drop* of Round-Up may be needed for larger plants.

Help greenspace volunteers get it out of our parks and greenspaces (see Eco-A Stewardship and parter events)

Tell your friends and neighbors, help educate others

Contribute to a new Eco-A fund dedicated solely to educating about and removing Japanese Chaff Flower from our neighborhoods and greenspaces



Eco-Addendum (Eco-A) offers unique naturalist walks and activities in urban parks and southeastern wildlands.

Our walks offer rich, outdoor educational experiences that focus on the art of observation. We share new science, natural and cultural history, and fascinating insights that reveal the complex characters of nature's story.

We learn together in a spirit of discovery, healing, and sharing experiences to restore ourselves as well as our environment.

Join us for walks and events in every season.



www.EcoAddendum.org



INVASIVE SPECIES RED ALERT



Japanese Chaff Flower





Japanese Chaff Flower seeds

Japanese Chaff Flower

Japanese Chaff Flower (JCF) (scientific name *Achyranthes japonica*) is one of the most invasive species to affect Atlanta and southeastern greenspaces and natural areas. It has the potential to exponentially reduce native biodiversity in a way we may have never seen before. An ounce of prevention is worth many tons of cure with this very fast spreading species.

Metro Atlanta is a Hotspot

The main source of spreading JCF is humans and dogs, because the seeds stick so easily to dogs and clothing, and even mowing equipment. This invasive species has already taken over some metro Atlanta Parks, and it has begun to invade many more, maybe even your yard.

About Japanese Chaff Flower

Japanese Chaff Flower has a 94% germination rate, which means if its seeds fall to the ground, 94% of them will sprout to make a new plants. Plants can produce seeds at only a few inches tall, or they can grow to 9 feet tall, with one plant producing over 1500 seeds. Japanese Chaff Flower is known for its medicinal qualities in Asia, especially the dried roots.

How to identify Japanese Chaff Flower

Leaves have smooth edges
(no teeth or notches)

Leaves are exactly opposite
each other along the stem

Stem is square

Seeds develop Aug - Oct in an
erect cluster at the tops of the plant
and along its branches

Seeds are shaped like a small
rectangular grain of rice, with hairs
at one end that attach to clothing
and animals; seeds are greenish at
first, becoming tan as they mature

Be careful, other high value,
uncommon native species, found
especially in older growth natural
areas, may have similar looking seeds



Japanese Chaff Flower seeds on a dog



NOT JCF! Native Lopseed, rare in Metro Atlanta, seeds look similar, BUT leaves have notched edges.



NOT JCF! Virginia Knotweed seeds are rounder, and whitish, leaves don't have notches, but they are NOT opposite along the stem.



NOT JCF! Native Horse Balm, rare in Metro Atlanta, leaves notched, flowers smell like licorice or lemon.