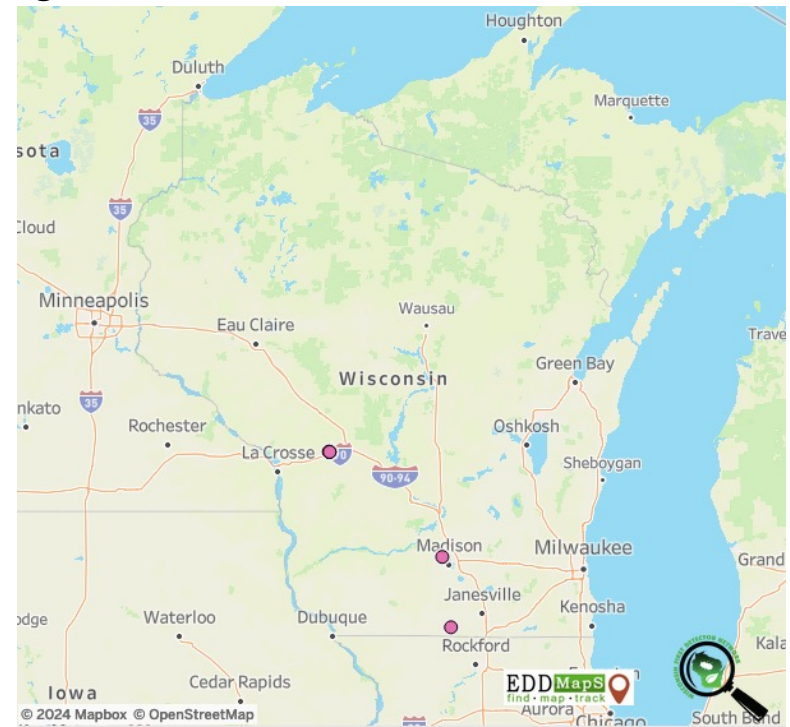


# Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)



- Bushy legume with small flowers and leaves; stems resemble brooms with many side branches
- Habitats it invades:
  - Grasslands
  - Roadsides
- Status
  - Wisconsin: Prohibited
  - Regulated in: IN





# Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)



Renz Weed Science  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

***Leaves alternate, trifoliate***

- 0.25-1" long, with 3 leaflets
- Leaves and stems hairy and grayish green
- Multiple stems from ground level, strongly angled; main stems branched



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UGA0016190

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# Sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*)



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## Flower/fruit

- Small, pea-like flowers; creamy white with purple spot on the uppermost petal.
- Flowers 1-3 in the leaf axils; mid-summer
- Fruit is a tiny, oval legume



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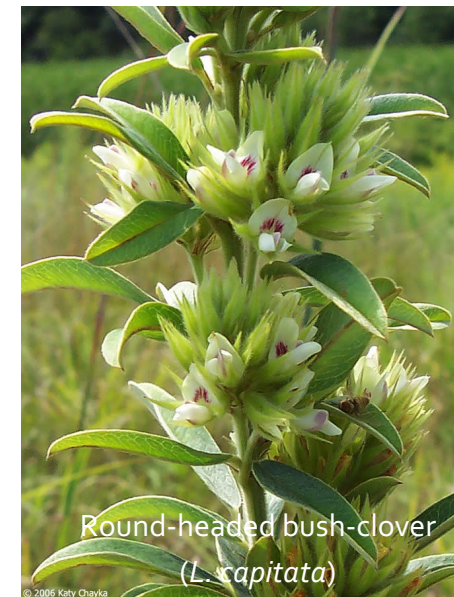


# Sericea lespedeza look alike

*Sericea lespedeza* resembles other native bush-clovers (*Lespedeza* spp.) but can be told apart from them based on flower and stem hair characters.



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Species	Flowers	Stems and leaves
<i>Sericea lespedeza</i> ( <i>L. cuneata</i> ) I	<b>Flowers 1-3 in leaf axils</b> , on stems shorter than the leaflets; petals creamy or yellow with purple splotch	Stem hairs lying flat; petioles 2-12 mm long
Round-headed bush-clover ( <i>L. capitata</i> ) N	<b>Flower clusters rounded with 10+ flowers</b> , on stems shorter than the leaflets; petals creamy or yellow with purple splotch	<b>Stem hairs spreading; petioles 1-6 mm long</b>
Prairie bush-clover ( <i>L. leptostachya</i> ) N	<b>Many flower clusters on stems longer than the leaflets</b> ; petals white to pale pink	Stem hairs lying flat; petioles 2-10 mm long
Slender bush-clover ( <i>L. virginica</i> ) N	Flower clusters on stems shorter than the leaflets; <b>petals pinkish purple</b>	Stem hairs lying flat; petioles 5-13 mm long