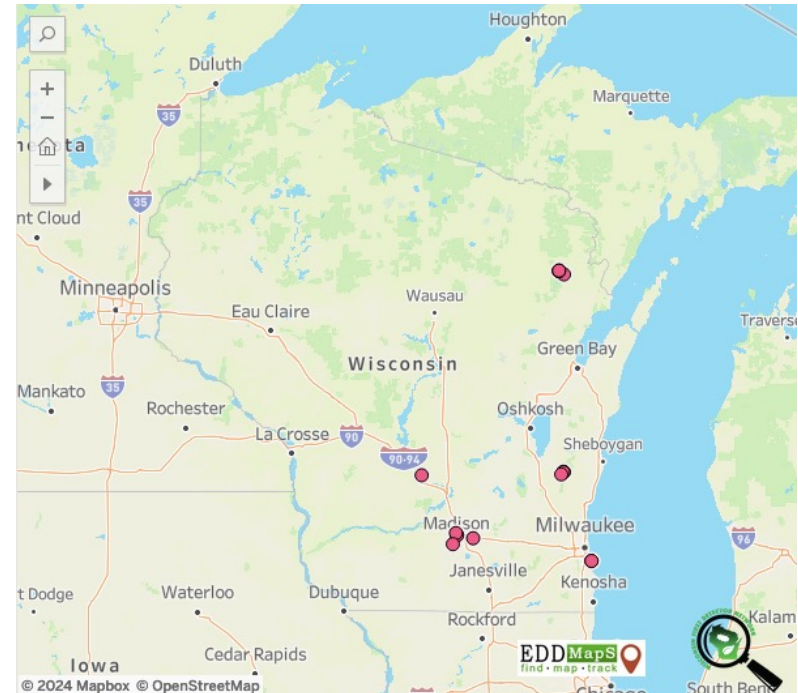




Privets (*Ligustrum* spp.)



- Medium-sized shrubs with elliptic, tough leaves and fragrant flowers
- Habitats they invade:
 - Forests
 - Roadsides
- Status
 - Wisconsin: Not Regulated
 - Other states: IN





Privets (*Ligustrum* spp.)

Leaves opposite, simple



© Robert Vidéki, *Doronicum* Kft., Bugwood.org

- Leaves are 1–2” long, elliptic, oval, or lance-shaped
- Leaf margins are entire
- Leaves are tough, smooth, somewhat glossy



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Privets (*Ligustrum* spp.)

Flowers/Fruit



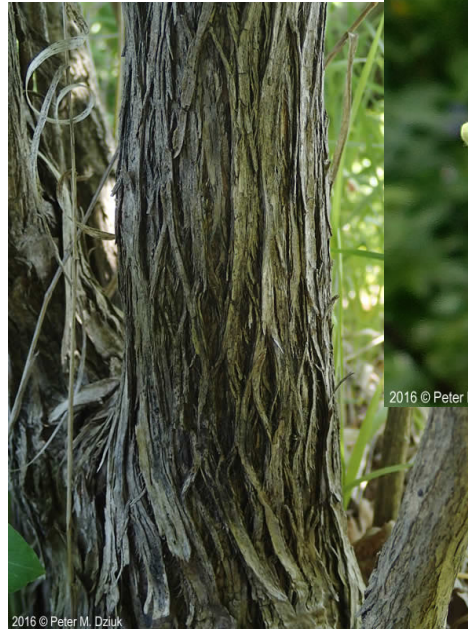
- Flowers are white, tubular, with 4 fused petals
- Flowers borne at the tips of branches in small clusters; June
- Fruit is a black berry





Privet look alike

- There are two species of privet known to have escaped in Wisconsin: border privet (*Ligustrum obtusifolium*) and common privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*). Common privet is more widespread than border privet, but the two species are difficult to tell apart. A technical key using stem hair characters and floral features is needed to identify a specimen.
- Privets are rather non-descript in their appearance and are easy to overlook. They most closely resemble non-native honeysuckles (*Lonicera* spp.).



Non-native honeysuckle (*Lonicera* sp.)

Species	Bark	Leaves	Flowers
Privets (<i>Ligustrum</i> spp.) (l)	Tight, smooth , with scattered ridges (lenticels), not shredding on old stems.	Somewhat glossy, tough	Flowers radially symmetrical, 4-petalled, with superior ovaries; borne at the branch tips
Honeysuckles (<i>Lonicera</i> spp.) (l)	Ridged, shredding on old and even younger branches.	Dull, thin	Flowers bilaterally symmetrical, 5-petalled, with inferior ovaries; borne in the leaf axils