Hedge-parsley (*Torilis* spp.)

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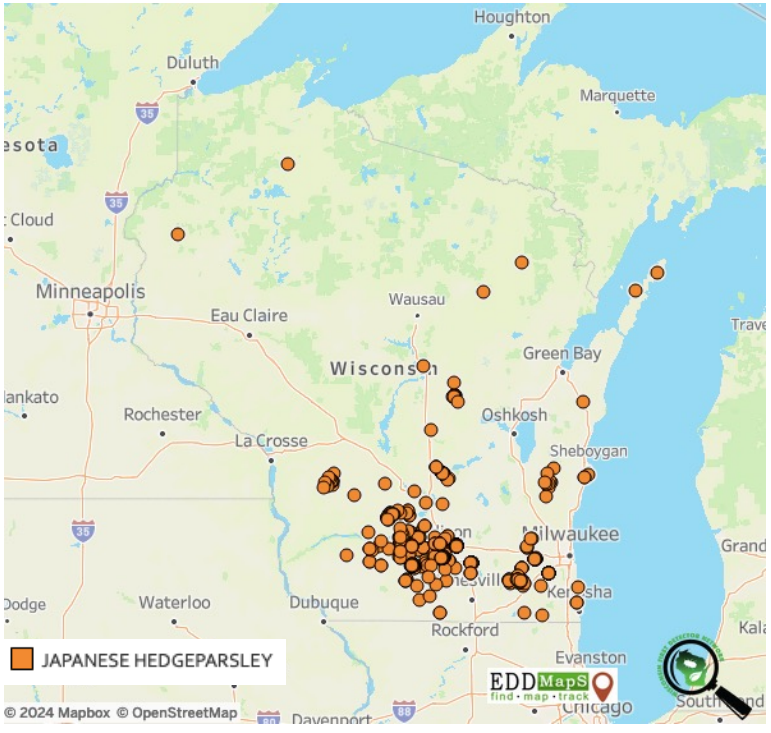
- Tall, spindly, highly branched carrot-like herbs
- Habitats they invade:
  - Forests
  - Roadsides
- Status
  - Wisconsin: Prohibited (*Torilis arvensis*)
  - Wisconsin: Prohibited/Restricted (*Torilis japonica*)
  - Not regulated in neighboring states



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Leaves alternate, pinnately compound

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- Leaves 2-5” long, triangular, finely divided
- Leaflet margins toothed
- Leaves and stems with short hairs
- Stem leaves smaller, more widely spaced

Hedge-parsley (*Torilis* spp.)

Flower/fruit

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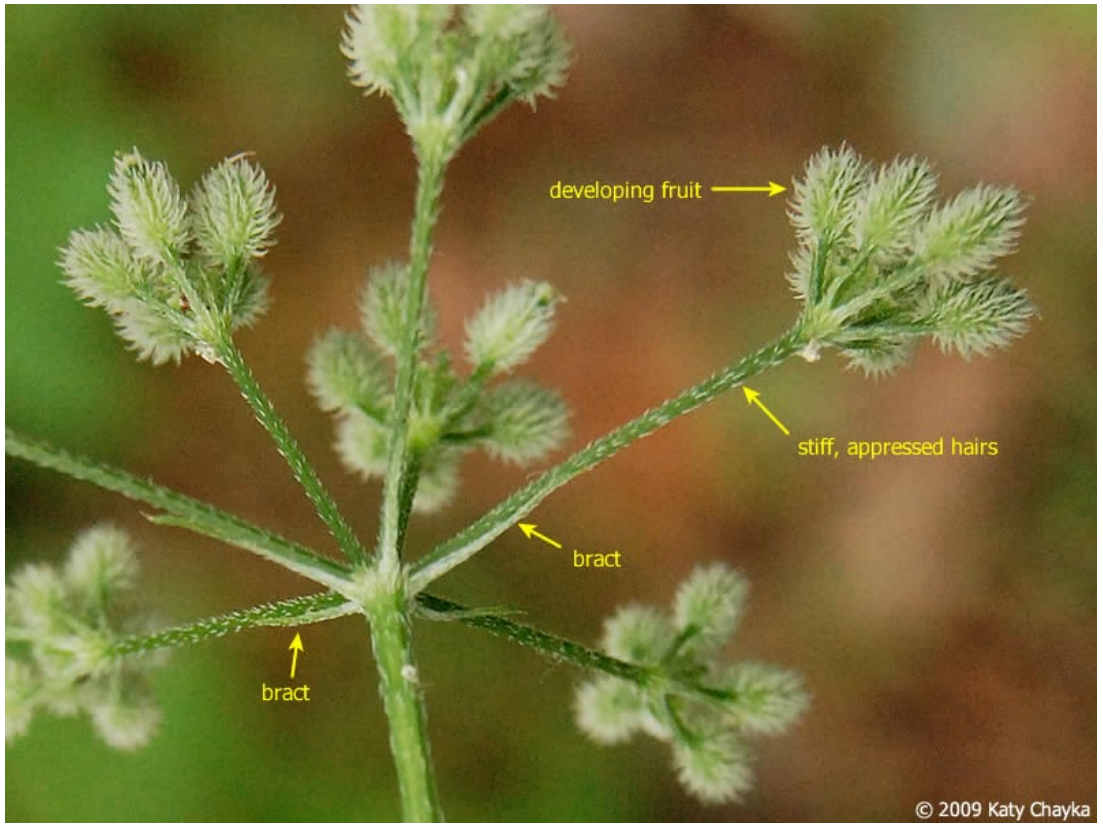
- Flowers are white, with five petals; June-Aug.
- Umbels with narrow bracts below
- Fruit is dry, bristly, splits into two parts



Hedge-parsley look alikes

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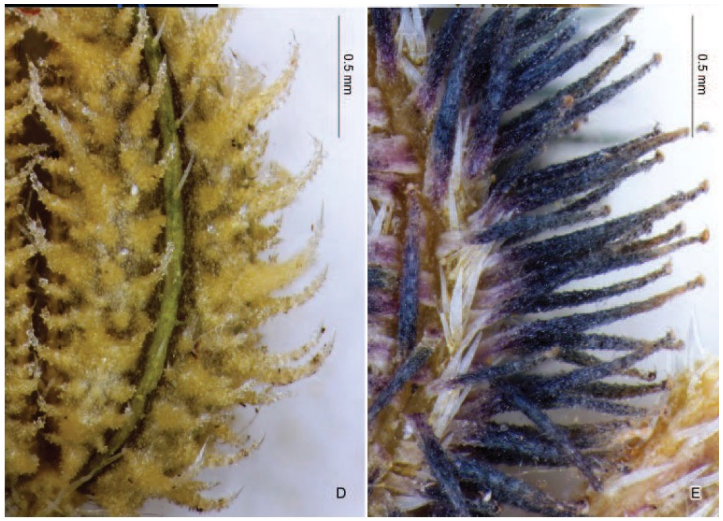
Only Japanese hedge-parsley (*Torilis japonica*) has been found in Wisconsin. Spreading hedge-parsley (*Torilis arvensis*) occurs in northern Illinois. The two species are difficult to tell apart and technical characters need to be compared. The key below provides a good overview.

2. Involucre of umbel with five to six bracts; schizocarps with strongly forward-curved spines, the apices acute with a single erect spicule, elsewhere on the spines spicules smaller and erect or forward-pointing; mericarps with more or less conspicuous green dorsal ribs, the ribs glabrous or with a few scattered hairs not obscuring the ribs (Figure 2D) — *Torilis japonica*

2. Involucre of umbel with zero to three bracts; schizocarps more or less straight to slightly forward-curved spines, the apices barbed with one to two backward-pointing spicules, elsewhere on the spines spicules smaller and erect to backward-pointing; mature mericarp with inconspicuous dorsal ribs, which are obscured by lines of white hairs similar to those on pedicels (Figure 2E) — *Torilis arvensis*



Key and figure taken from: DiTommaso, A., Darbyshire, S.J., Marschner, C.A., & Averill, K.M. North-East, North-Central, Mid-Atlantic United States and Southern Canada: Japanese Hedgeparsley (*Torilis japonica*)—A New Invasive Species in the United States? *Invasive Plant Science and Management*, 7(4) : 553-560

Hedge-parsley look alikes

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Queens Anne's-lace (*Daucus carota*) (**I**) could be mistaken for hedge-parsley (*Torilis* spp.) (**I**). Queen Anne's-lace has **leaves that are not triangular in shape**, **stems that lack flattened hairs**, and **compound umbels with divided bracts**.

Carrot Family

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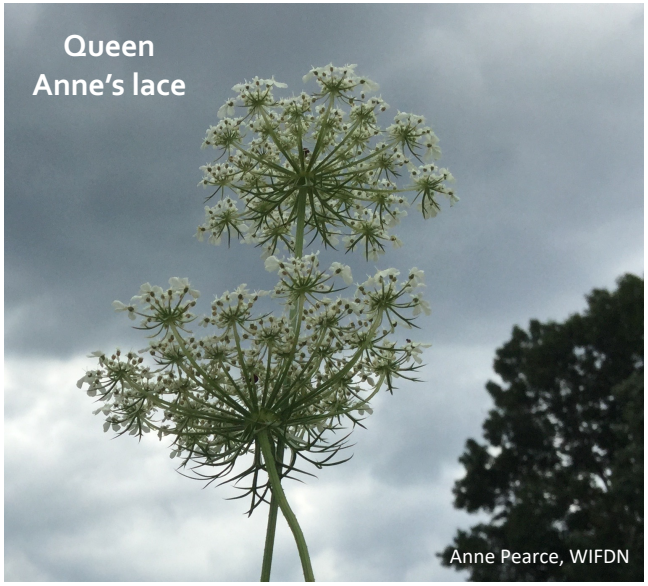
SUMMARY
Many members of the carrot family (*Apiaceae*) are invasive in Wisconsin. These **herbaceous biennials and perennials** have **alternate, compound leaves with sheaths at the base** of leaves. Many **small, 5-petaled flowers** are arranged in **compound umbels** (several small umbels combine to make larger umbel). Of the species that are invasive, **all have white flowers except wild parsnip**, which has yellow flowers. **Seeds form in pairs** and **stems are hollow** at maturity.



LOOK ALIKES
There are several members of the carrot family that are native and/or grown in gardens for food (roots, herbs, seeds) that **share the same characteristics listed above**. Within the carrot family, species are differentiated based on a combination of characteristics including overall size, hair presence on leaves and stems, bloom time, stem color, and seed shape and size.

Scientific Name	Common Name	NR 40
Aegopodium podagraria	Bishop's goutweed	R
Anthriscus sylvestris	Wild chervil	P/R
Conium maculatum	Poison hemlock	P/R
Daucus carota	Queen Anne's lace	NR
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant hogweed	P
Pastinaca sativa	Wild parsnip	R
Pimpinella saxifrage	Burnet saxifrage	R
Torilis arvensis	Spreading hedgeparsley	P
Torilis japonica	Japanese hedgeparsley	P/R

Carrot Family

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Stem	Leaves	Flowers	Seeds
Aegopodium podagraria	Bishop's goutweed	Branched, ridged, hairless	Compound with up to 9 leaflets; toothed, pointed tips, often deeply cleft	2-4" umbels; 10 – 20 umbellets of up to 25 flowers each; no bracts at base of umbels or umbellets; May - June	Oval, 1/6" long, 2-parted, ribbed
Anthriscus sylvestris	Wild chervil	Branched, ribbed, short-hairy	2-3x compound, fernlike, triangular, up to 8" long	1-3" umbels"; 5-8 teardrop shaped bracts with hairy edges at base of umbellets; April - June	2-parted, narrowly egg-shaped; 3/8" long; glossy and smooth, 2-3 faint ribs
Conium maculatum	Poison hemlock	Smooth, mottled purple spots, may have waxy coating	2-3x compound, triangular, up to 18" long, hairless, bad odor	3" umbels; triangular bracts at base of umbel and umbellets; June – Aug.	2-parted, egg-shaped, 1/8" long with wavy ribs
Daucus carota	Queen Anne's lace	Slightly ribbed; usually hairy	2x compound, 4" long, 2" wide, larger at base	2-5" umbels; often single dark purple flower in center of umbel; showy, branched bracts at base of umbels and umbellets; June – Sept.	Umbel folds into nest shape as seeds mature; seeds ribbed with stiff hairs
Heracleum mantegazzianum	Giant hogweed	2-4" diameter, prominent purple spots; stiff, scattered hairs	Pinnately compound, 1-5' wide, 3 deeply lobed, pointed leaflets; toothed edges	Huge umbels 2'+ across with 50-150 umbellets; linear bracts at base of umbellets; May – July	2-parted flattened oval, 3/8" long

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Scientific Name	Common Name	Stem	Leaves	Flowers	Seeds
Pastinaca sativa	Wild parsnip	Hairless, strongly grooved	Up to 18" long, 6" wide, pinnately compound with 5-15 coarsely toothed leaflets (fewer on stem leaves)	YELLOW flowers, umbels 3-8"; no bracts; June - July	Flattened, winged oval, ¼" long
Pimpinella saxifrage	Burnet saxifrage	Faintly ribbed, covered in very short hairs	Pinnately compound; lowest leaves up to 12" long, with oval, coarsely toothed leaflets; leaves smaller up stem	Umbels 2-3"; usually no bracts, sometimes one bract at base of umbel or umbellet; June – Sept.	Flattened, 2-parted oval pod with faint ribs, <1/8"
Torilis arvensis	Spreading hedgeparsley	Ridged, branched stems	Alternate, compound, fern-like, slightly hairy, 2-5" long	Small, ½ - 2" loose umbels; outer petals lobed; no bracts; July – Aug.	Oval, 1/8" long, covered in hooked hairs
Torilis japonica	Japanese hedgeparsley	Ridged, covered in stiff, flattened hairs	Alternate, compound, fern-like, slightly hairy, 2-5" long	Small, 1 ½ - 2" open umbels; 5 notched petals of unequal size; 2 or more narrow bracts at base of umbel; up to 8 bracts at base of umbellet; June – Aug.	Oval, 1/8" long, covered in hooked hairs