

Privet, Chinese and Japanese

An invasive species shrub that is taking over unmanaged public lands and killing the native Post Oak Tree in Arlington, Texas and the Southern Cross Timbers

www.ThePostOaks.org

Privet is a cousin to ligustrum.

Privet is considered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept. to be a Nuisance Plant or Nuisance Wildscape. It is also referred to as an Invasive Plant and an exotic plant.

There are other over growths in Texas-

Chinese Pistachio Trees in Austin

Crown Of Thorns in the Hill Country

Privet causes a Monoculture- because it competes with other plants for moisture in the soil and sunshine and grows so fast it kills or chokes out surrounding plants including the crowning achievement of plants in the North Central Texas Region, the Post Oak Tree.

Privet shelters rats and roaches because the privet grows so thick that other animals can not get into the thicket.

Privet comes from the part of Asia where a cooler climate keeps it from taking over and crowding out other plants.

Privet is not indigenous to the North Central Texas Area but, was a plant brought by the settlement of Europeans.

Invasives are listed as the second biggest cause of the loss of Native Species.

Invasive Plants naturalize / naturize too well and take over natural areas and Displace Native Species.

Privet left unchecked grows laterally in this climate approximately 20 feet a year.

Privet is an allergen, is toxic an when working to eradicate privet volunteers notice that they develop a severe headache during this time that lasts 24 to 36 hours after finishing their volunteer work.

Hypoxylon Canker Fungus is present at various levels in Post Oak Woodlands in the Southern Cross Timbers depending on how many trees with high surface root density characteristics are present. Adding privet to this mix of plants only exacerbates the fungus issue attacking and killing post oak trees because of the drought issues associated with fungus growth and lack of water available to the post oak tree roots.

Private contractors and local volunteers have a proven track record of irradiating privet in our local Post Oak Woodlands.