Kudzu
*Pueraria lobata*

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**Kudzu**

*Pueraria lobata*

**General:** Fast-growing, deciduous, perennial vine. Grows up to a foot per day, completely covering vegetation and structures. Vines 1-4 inches thick. When young, stems are covered with stiff bronze hairs, becoming woody when mature. Roots are fleshy with taproot up to 12 feet deep.

**Leaves:** First true leaves covered with short bronze-colored hairs and arranged oppositely. Subsequent leaves with three leaflets on short petiole and arranged alternately on the stem. Individual leaflets 3-4 inches long and deeply lobed with hairy edges.

**Flowers:** Reddish to purple, erect, pea-like flowers 4-8 inches long with a grapefruit-like smell. Blooms mid-summer through very early fall.

**Fruit:** A flattened brown pod, approximately 1 ½ to 2 inches long, contains many kidney bean-shaped seeds.

**Notes:** Annual control costs in the U.S. are over $50 million dollars and rising.

**Impacts:** Kudzu is so aggressive that it covers and smothers all other plants in its path, resulting in massive monocultures eliminating native species and natural diversity.
Old Mans Beard
*Clematis vitalba*

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Old Mans Beard
*Clematis vitalba*

**General:** Perennial woody vine climbing and smothering objects like trees, shrubs, or fences. Aggressively grows vertically 100 feet or more. Self-pollinating.

**Leaves:** Deciduous, opposite, usually with five leaflets. Leaflets elongated, heart-shaped. Leaf edges typically smooth on flowering stems. Upper leaflets sometimes 3-lobed.

**Flowers:** Blooms throughout summer, green to white, perfect flowers (stamens and pistils on all flowers) about 1 inch in diameter, arranged in clusters.

**Fruit:** Numerous, small seeds arranged in clusters bearing long white feathery tails. Prolific seed clusters hang from vine like white puffy spheres, and persist after leaves have fallen from trees through late fall and into winter.

**Notes:** A native look-alike, *Clematis ligusticifolia*, exists predominantly east of the Cascades, has imperfect flowers, (some flowers have stamen only), and does not have the aggressive growth habit of *C. vitalba*.

**Impacts:** Blankets existing vegetation, starving trees and shrubs of sunlight, eventually killing them. Will try to grow vertically, but may also create dense mats of vegetation on the ground preventing the regeneration of future plants.

**Report locations of this species only if found in the Sandy River Basin and Multnomah County east of the Sandy River.**