

Fighting Stilt Grass

There is a lot written about fighting Japanese Stiltgrass, and the advice seems revolve around finding vigorous native plants that will thrive in the prevailing conditions and physically out-compete the Stiltgrass. Some of these native plants are themselves rather aggressive and may spread assertively. However, in their own way, each will provide more ecological benefits than the Stiltgrass.

Sources of information:

Blue Ridge PRISM – Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management Fact Sheet

<http://blueridgeprism.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Japanese-Stiltgrass-SAR-5-27-17-VDOF-w-BOX-FINAL.pdf>

Nancy Lawson, (NL), The Humane Gardener

<https://www.humanegardener.com/the-best-native-grass-youve-never-heard-of/>

<https://www.humanegardener.com/how-to-fight-plants-with-plants/>

Plant NoVa Natives:

<https://www.plantnovanatives.org/outwitting-japanese-stiltgrass>

Plants to consider trying, but no guarantees, we are all experimenting.

Ground Covers, i.e., low-growing:

Packera Aurea, Golden Groundsel (NL)

Chrysogonum virginianum, Green-and-Gold (NL)

Voila spp, Voilets (NL)

Erigeron pulchellus, Robin's Plantain (NL)

Grasses and Sedges:

Chasmanthium latifolium, Sea Oats, Northern Sea Oats (NL, JM)

Paspalum leave, Field Bead Grass (PNN)

Muhlenbergia schreberi, Nimblewill (NL)

Carex squarrosa Squarrose Sedge (PNN)

Carex crinita, Fringed Sedge (PNN)

Carex lurida, Lurid Sedge (PNN)

Carex vulpinoidea (TM Observation)

Forbs and Annuals:

Pilea pumila, Clearweed (NL, KB observation)

Impatiens capensis, Jewelweed, touch-me-not (NL & others)

Eupatorium fistulosum, Joe Pye Weed (PNN)

Symphoyotricum novae-angliae, New England Aster (PNN)

Vernonia novaboracensis, New York Ironweed (PNN)

Verbesina alternifolia, Wingstem (PNN)

Zizia aurea, Golden Alexander (PNN)

Helianthus divaricatus, Woodland Sunflower (AG observation)

Rudbeckia hirta, Black-eyed Susan, (TM Observation)

Pycnanthemum tenuifolium, Narrow-leafed Mountain Mint (AO Observation)

Monarda, sp. Beebalm (AO observation)

Chamaecrista fasciculata, Partridge Pea (TM Observation)

Bidens coronata, Tickseed Sunflower (TM, AG Observation)

Information on each plant regarding growing conditions (Sun/Shade; Moisture etc), Height / Spread, Flowering time, wildlife associations and susceptibility to deer browse can be found at: <https://www.plantnovanatives.org/plant-finder-app>

Sources:

NL Nancy Lawson
JM John McGee
KB Kerry Byzdyk
AG Ann Garvey
AO Anne Owen
TM Tess McAllister
PNN Plant NoVa Natives