**Dioscorea alata**  
winged yam

**Appearance:** Vigorously twining herbaceous vine, from massive underground tuber.

**Leaves:** Long petioled, opposite (often with only one leaf persistent); blades to 20 cm (8 in) or more in length, narrowly heart shaped, with basal lobes often angular.

**Flowers:** Small, occasional, male and female arising from leaf axils on separate plants (i.e., a dioecious species); male flowers in panicles to 30 cm (1 ft) long; female flowers in smaller spikes.

**Fruit:** A 3-parted capsule; seeds winged.

**Ecological threat:** Some stands forming blankets of shingled leaves over native vegetation and able to cover even mature trees. FLEPPC Category I

**Distribution:** NW, NE, C, SW, SE

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**Field Notations**

DIOSALAT/DIAL2

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