

Kudzu



Leaves. Key characteristics: alternate, trifoliate and may have two or three lobes.

Petioles are as long or longer than the leaves themselves.



Young stems are covered with dense copper-colored hairs.



The underside of the leaves are covered with hair.



Flowers. Flowers occur in racemes, have a grape-like aroma and purple petals.



Kudzu is a very aggressive-growing vine and may grow up to one foot per day under ideal conditions.



Habitat.



Kudzu regenerates new shoot growth in the spring of the year from a vast underground root system.

Images courtesy of Dr. Gary Lesoing, University Outreach and Extension Regional Agronomy Specialist and Dr. Chris Starbuck, MU Extension State Horticulture Specialist.

Life cycle: perennial.