

WAVYLEAF BASKETGRASS

A NEW FOREST INVADER



Oplismenus hirtellus ssp. *undulatifolius*

What is it?

Wavyleaf basketgrass (WB) is a shade-loving grass invading Maryland and Virginia. From a Baltimore landfill in 1996, it quickly spread, and is now in Virginia on the Potomac, in Fauquier's mountains, and in the Shenandoah National Park. Growing at times with Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*), WB dominates stiltgrass, carpeting the forest floor. WB is still rare and scattered.

Identify?

WB looks like a low, one-foot high bamboo. Leaves are ½" wide and 1 ½ - 4" long, light green, rippled like a ribbon that's been pleated and unfolded. The leaf sheaths and stems are quite hairy; the leaf edges are not hairy.

Fine stolons (horizontal rooting stems) persist all year and frequently climb over rocks and rotting logs. Sticky seeds appear in late summer and persist through November.



Go to www.stopthisplant.org

- Hand-pull & hang to dry.
- Stay out of seed patches; clean boots, clothes, dogs with tape and burn the tape.
- Or, carefully spray it with either
 - grass-selective clethodim before seeds
 - glyphosate any time
- Let us know you found it—instructions at www.stopthisplant.org

OUR FORESTS THANK YOU!