

Celastrus orbiculatus – Oriental (or Asiatic) Bittersweet
Invasive woody vine



Oriental bittersweet strangling a small tree.
Photo: Les Mehrhoff, IPANE



Oriental bittersweet fruits in Roxbury, CT.
Photo: Logan Senack, UConn

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Invasive woody vine



Oriental bittersweet produces high numbers of fruits. Photo: Les Mehrhoff, IPANE



Close-up of fruits. Photo: Nicole Gabelman, UConn



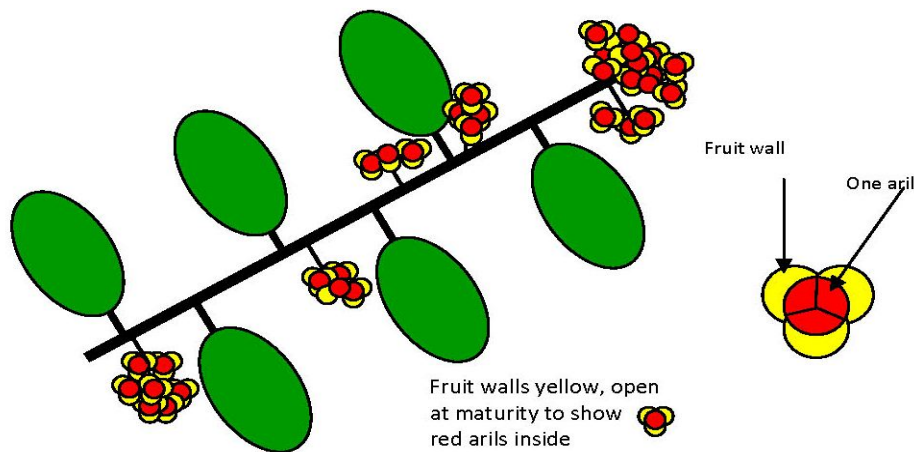
*Oriental bittersweet growing in Storrs, CT.
Photo: Donna Ellis, UConn*

Comparison

Celastrus orbiculatus vs. *Celastrus scandens*

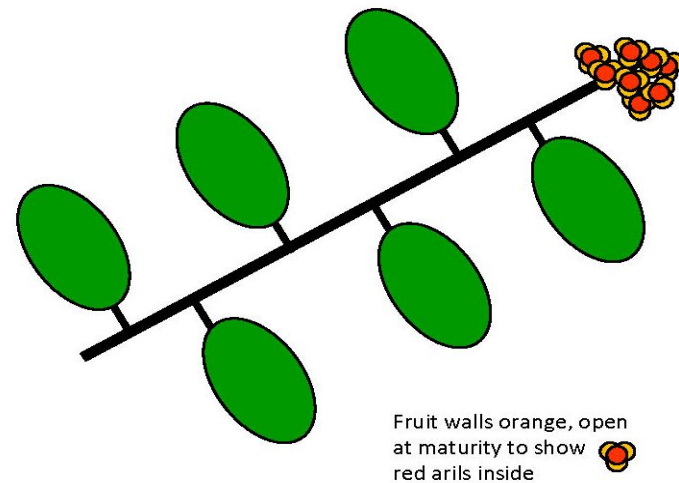
Oriental Bittersweet (invasive) vs. *American Bittersweet* (native)

Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)



- Flowers and fruits along length of vine
- Outer fruit walls tend to be yellow

American bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*)



- Flowers and fruits only terminally (at end of vine)
- Outer fruit walls tend to be orange

NOTE: Illustrations depict referenced traits only and are not intended as a diagnostic guide. Variation exists within species, fruit color may vary, and hybridization between species is possible. Not to scale.