

J. Chinese Clematis (*Clematis orientalis*)

Key Characteristics:

Chinese clematis is a member of the Buttercup family. It is an **herbaceous to woody perennial vine**, initially introduced as an ornamental. **Stems** reach 10-15 ft, with gray-brown bark, and tend to climb on rocks, fences, bushes, and trees. **Roots** are 5-10 ft long. **Leaves** are opposite and may be in groups of three. Each large solitary yellow **flower** produces numerous feathery, long-tailed seeds which are conspicuous all winter.



Locations:

Chinese clematis stands can be found in the Town of Snowmass Village. It is also present in Garfield County near No Name. There are many native clematis species in Colorado, all having white flowers.

Biological control:

None known at this time.

Cultural control:

The only recommendation available for preventing the spread of this species is by eliminating seed production from established stands, and discontinuing its use as an ornamental.

Mechanical control:

Hand pull woody vine before seed heads mature.

Chemical control:

Contact the Pitkin County Land Management Department for more specific information about herbicide products, application rates, and equipment calibration.

Look-Alikes:

There are many native Clematis species in Colorado. Western Virgin's Bower (*Clematis ligusticifolia*) is a common example because its leaves are very similar to Chinese Clematis, but it can be distinguished by its flowers which are smaller, white and occur in clusters rather than solitary on stems.

Other native Clematis species include Blue Clematis (*Clematis occidentalis*), and Rocky Mountain clematis (*Clematis columbiana*), both of which have light blue-lavender flowers.



Western Virgin's Bower
(*Clematis ligusticifolia*)



Blue Clematis
(*Clematis occidentalis*)