

MONITORING THE ANNUAL INCREASE IN GARLIC MUSTARD IN EASTERN NEBRASKA

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Abstract: Introduced from Europe to North America in the mid-1800's, Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) has demonstrated an effectiveness at invading the understory of many wooded sites. The increase in Garlic Mustard was monitored at the Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuge in Eastern Nebraska in wooded plots adjacent to prairie restoration projects. Permanent transect locations were established and line-intercept data collected each summer from 2008 to 2010. Data indicate a rapid increase in the number of transects intersecting Garlic Mustard as well as a dramatic increase in frequency each year. These studies emphasize the rate of colonization as a significant challenge when attempting to control Garlic Mustard.