

# INVASIVE SPECIES IN HUNGARY

Erasmus+ “Seeds” without borders  
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# Introduction

- ▶ Invasive species spreading rapidly in Hungary
- ▶ We will present 4 species:
- ▶ Canadian goldenrod
- ▶ Wild cucumber
- ▶ *Ailanthus altissima*
- ▶ Silkweed

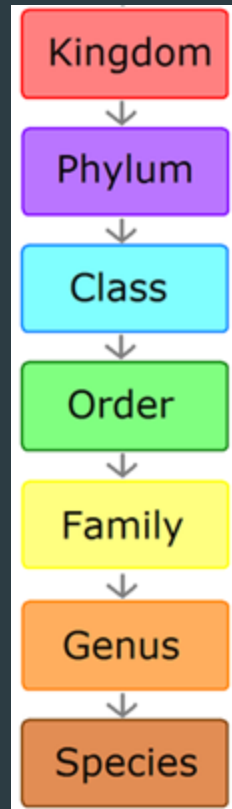




Canadian goldenrod



# Scientific classification

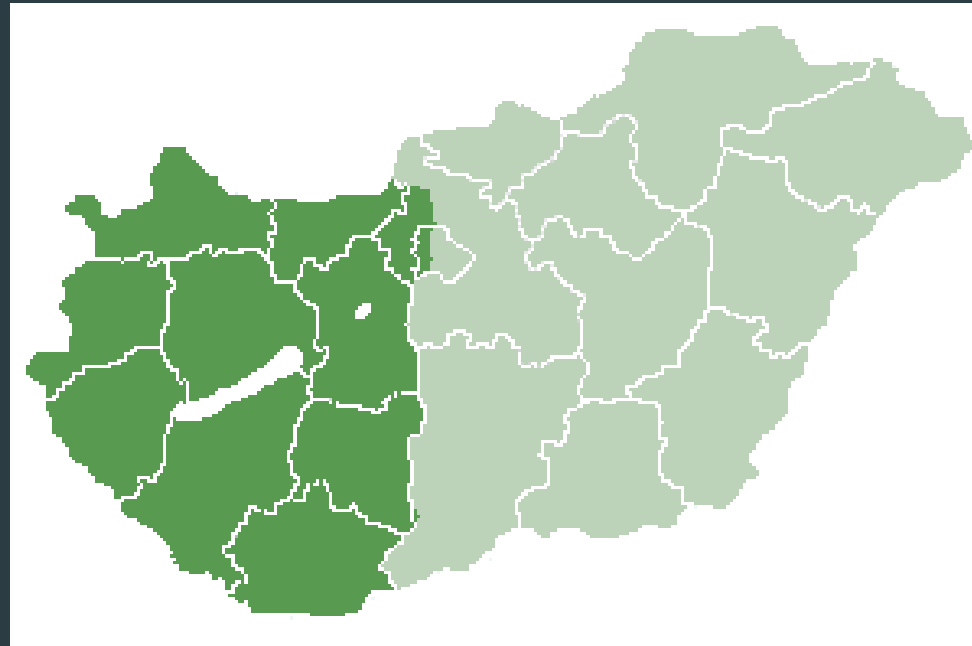


- ▶ Kingdom: plants
- ▶ Phylum: angiosperms
- ▶ Class: dicotyledonous
- ▶ Order: asterales
- ▶ Family: asteraceae
- ▶ Genus: goldenrod
- ▶ Species: Canadian goldenrod



# Habitat, occurrence

- ▶ - Native to North America
- ▶ - Appeared in Europe as an ornamental plant
- ▶ - Spread like wildflowers
- ▶ - Hungary, Transdanubia (western half)



# Description

- ▶ Creeping rhizome
- ▶ Large - height: 60-200 cm
- ▶ Grows quickly
- ▶ Straight, non-branching stem covered with hairs
- ▶ Spear-shaped, long leaves
- ▶ Perennial plant
- ▶ Small, yellow flowers





- Lance-shaped, elongated leaves



- Yellow flowers



# Lifestyle

- ▶ Undemanding, no care required
- ▶ Lives near lakes, gardens and along forests
- ▶ Blooms between July and October
- ▶ Negative effect: spreads quickly and displaces native species





# Utilization

- ▶ Indians began to use it for medicinal purposes
- ▶ Herb tea - prevents flu, reduces fever, treats kidney stones and heals wounds
- ▶ Most important active ingredients: flavonoids, essential oil



# Wild cucumber





## General information

- ▶ Cucurbitaceae family
- ▶ The only species is *Echinocystis lobata*
- ▶ Wild cucumber, Prickly cucumber or Bur cucumber
- ▶ Common invasive species
- ▶ Native to North America
- ▶ It was planted as an ornamental plant
- ▶ It spreads really quickly and suppresses other plants





## Stems and leaves

- ▶ 8 m long
- ▶ Thin, angular, furrowed
- ▶ Climb over shrubs and bushes
- ▶ Long petioles
- ▶ Palm-shaped





## Flower and fruit

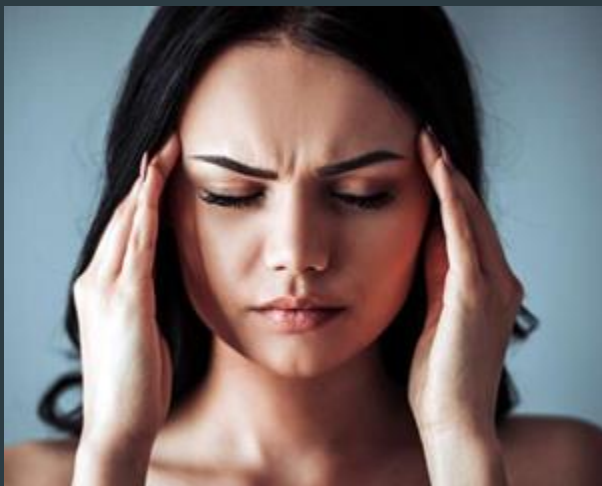
- ▶ Monoecious
- ▶ Separate male and female blooms on the same plant
- ▶ Prickly, soft, cylindrical
- ▶ 5 cm long
- ▶ With four seeds
- ▶ Inedible
- ▶ Persists all winter

# Distribution

- ▶ It is native to North Amerika
- ▶ Common invasive species
- ▶ Őrség Landscape Protection Area of Hungary
- ▶ The widespread distribution is determined by climatic factors
- ▶ The plant can be found along rivers







## Uses

- ▶ Medicinally
- ▶ Treat rheumatism
- ▶ Bitter extract from the roots
- ▶ Aphrodisiac and analgesic
- ▶ Prepare a poultice to relieve headaches
- ▶ Seeds as beads



# AILANTHUS ALTISSIMA





# Description

- ▶ MEDIUM SIZED
- ▶ THE BARK IS SMOOTH AND LIGHT GREY,
- ▶ THE LEAVES ARE LARGE (30-90 CM)
- ▶ THE FLOWERS ARE SMALL, BUT THEY APPEAR IN LARGE PANICLES (UP TO 50 CM IN LENGHT)



# Habitat

- ▶ THE TREE GROWS RAPIDLY
- ▶ IT IS NATIVE TO CENTRAL AND NORTHERN CHINA, TAIWAN AND NORTHERN KOREA
- ▶ VIGOROUS INVASIVE SPECIES
- ▶ THE TREE PREFERS MOIST AND LOAMY SOILS



# The negative effects of the Tree of Heaven

- ▶ IT'S THICK FOILAGE BLOCKS THE LIGHT FROM NATIVE SPECIES.
- ▶ ALLELOPATHIC EFFECT
- ▶ BECAUSE OF THE PREVIOUS REASON, THE NATIVE PLANT COVER GROWS THINNER
- ▶ THESE SPECIES ARE ABLE TO HOLD BACK AFFORESTATION PROCESSES FOR DECADES.





# Protection and elimination

- ▶ SPRAYING
- ▶ SERIAL STEM LUBRICATION
- ▶ OR WITH INJECTION





# History

- ▶ IN CHINA, THE TREE OF HEAVEN HAS A LONG AND RICH HISTORY
- ▶ AILANTHUS SILKMOTH, WHICH IS AN ANIMAL INVOLVED IN SILK PRODUCTION.



Ailanthus Silkmoth



# THE SILKWEED





Flying hair



Roots



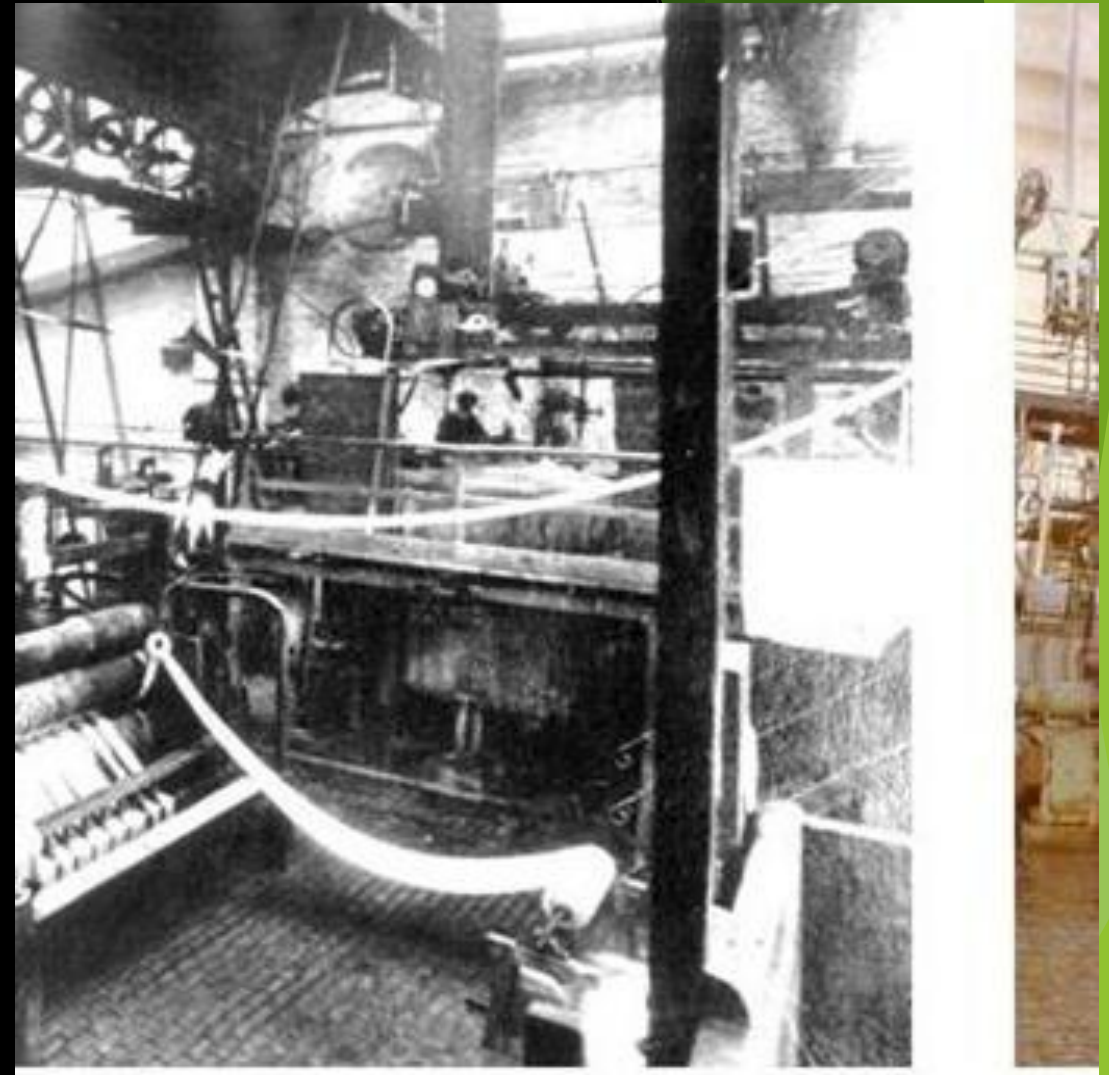
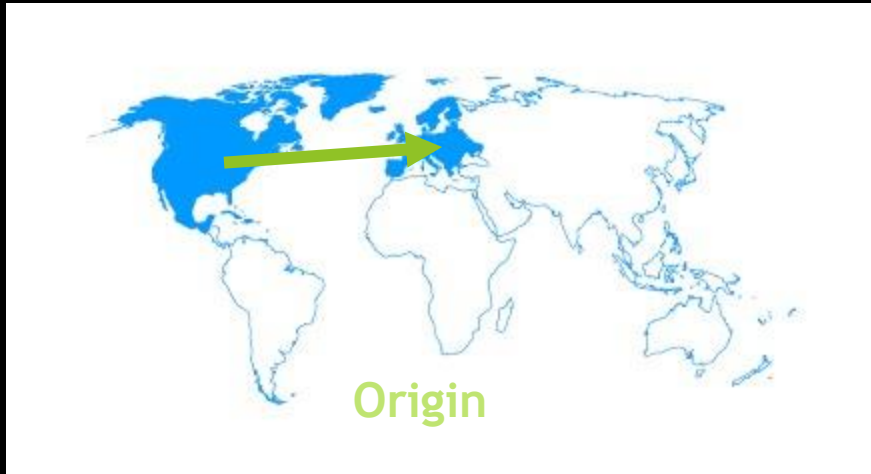


## Flowers

- Fragrant
- Fruit: 8-11 cm
- Blooms: June-August







Textile industry



- Eradication is very complicated
- It grows again from its roots







- Its honey is delicious and healthy
- It can be consumed by people with allergies.





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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