

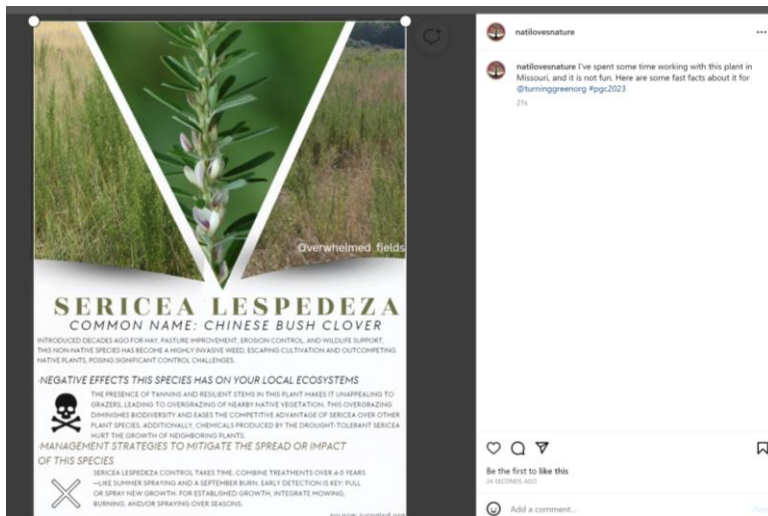
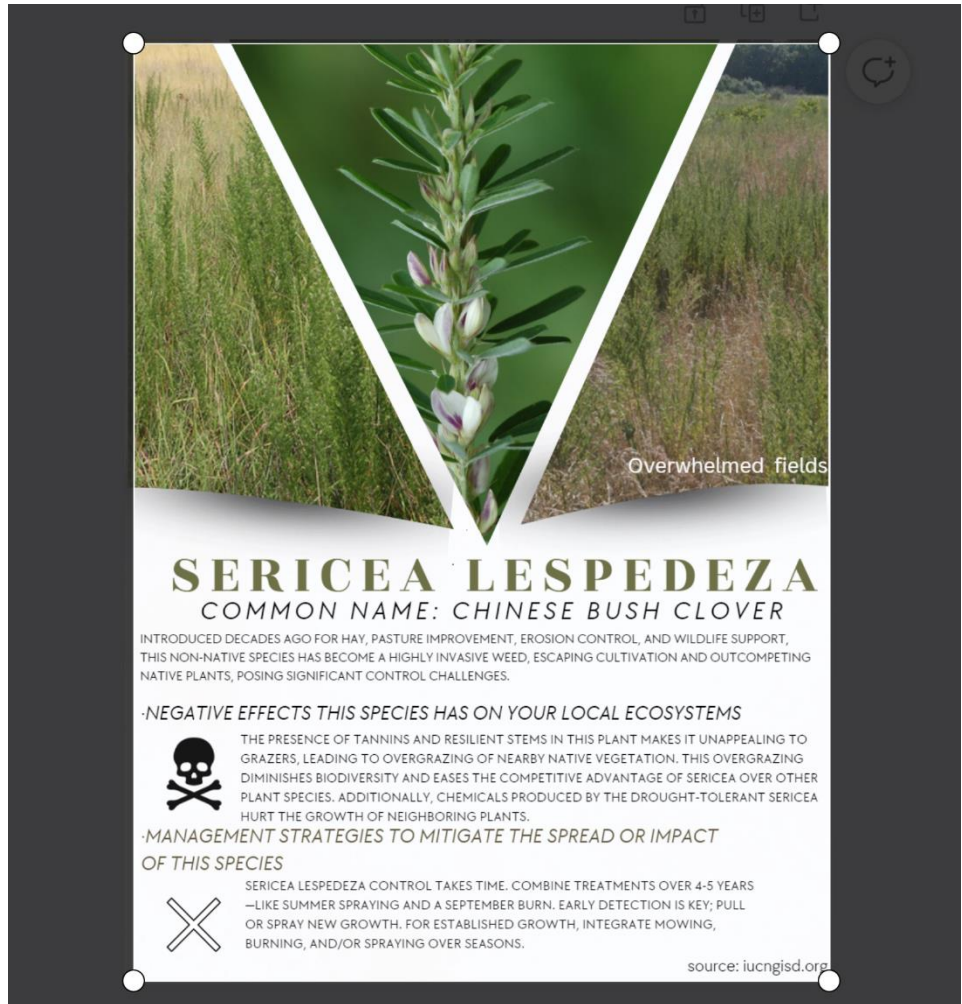
Natalia Islava, Central Methodist University  
 PGC 2023 User: NatiLovesNature, Insta @natilovesnature  
 nataliaislava@gmail.com  
 DAY 14 Greener

**Sericea Lespedeza**  
 Common name of the species  
 Chinese bush clover

Introduced decades ago for hay, pasture improvement, erosion control, and wildlife support, this non-native species has become a highly invasive weed, escaping cultivation and outcompeting native plants, posing significant control challenges.

**Negative effects this species has on your local ecosystems**

The presence of tannins and resilient stems in this plant makes it unappealing to grazers, leading to overgrazing of nearby native vegetation. This overgrazing diminishes biodiversity and eases the competitive advantage of sericea over other plant species. Additionally, chemicals produced by the drought-tolerant sericea hurt the growth of neighboring plants.



**Management strategies to mitigate the spread or impact of this species**

Sericea lespedeza control takes time. Combine treatments over 4-5 years—like summer spraying and a September burn. Early detection is key; pull or spray new growth. For established growth, integrate mowing, burning, and/or spraying over seasons.

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CyZoZ77uFdZ/>