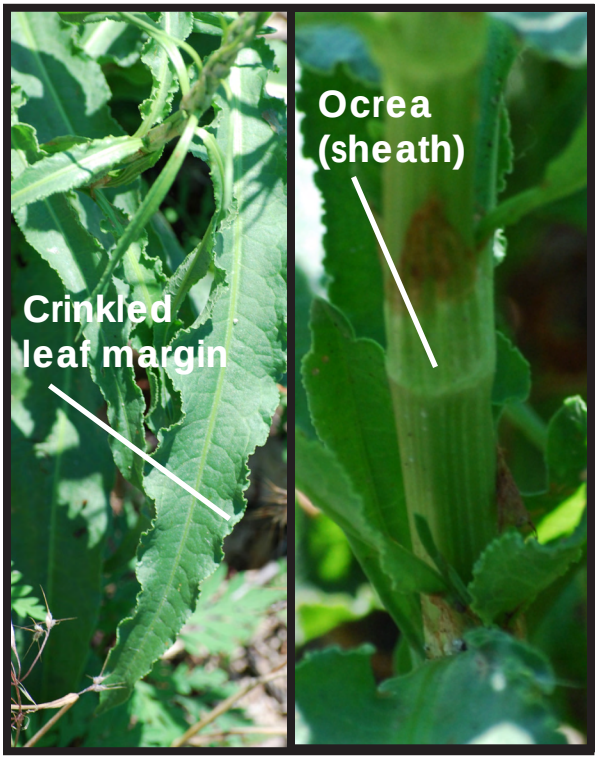
Curly dock

Rumex crispus

Minnesota C-Value: 0

Wetland Indicator Status: FAC+

Non-native



Leaves: Basal leaves large, 10-30 cm long and 1-5 cm wide on long petioles. Stem leaves are smaller, alternately branching, rounded at the base with shorter petioles. Leaf margins are curly and crinkled. Smooth ocrea to 1.5 cm long.

Stems: Up to 5 ft tall, smooth, ribbed, upright, becoming red with age. Non-branching below inflorescense.

Flowers and fruit: Large branched panicle with flower stalks drooping at the tips. Flower 5-10 mm long. Fruit is a brown, dried achene with heart-shaped wings, 2-3 mm long.

Plant communities: Wet meadows, shores, ditches, old fields, and other wet and disturbed areas.

Comments: Introduced perennial from Eurasia. Other *Rumex* species in the state differ in leaf shape, stem branching, or fruit structure. Common early in restorations, becoming less common over time.