

**Problem:** Asian Jumping Worms, Crazy Worms, Snake Worms – *Amyntas spp.*



Asian Jumping Worm



European Earthworm

**Description:** These earthworms are native to East Asia and are considered invasive as they damage soil by leaving behind their worm castings. These castings are dry and grainy and make it difficult for native seeds to germinate and do not support our native plants well. Asian Jumping Worms live up to their name by wriggling and writhing when disturbed. Their body color is a darker gray than the lighter colored European earthworm. They also have a white, smooth clitellum (band) that is the same diameter as the rest of the worm. European earthworms have a pinkish clitellum that is ridged and slightly raised. Unfortunately, the Asian Jumping Worm reproduces much more rapidly than our native earthworms.

**Recommendations:** The first step in control is to prevent their spread. Check soil, compost or any other material that you are considering bringing onto your property for these organisms. If Asian Jumping Worms are found on your property, don't panic. Collect and discard any that you see. Worms can be sealed in a plastic bag and thrown in the trash.

**References:**

1. [Jumping Worms](#), University of Wisconsin Extension
2. [Jumping Worms](#), Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

**Last Update:** 10/9/2023

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