



ELAEAGNUS

Elaeagnus x reflexa

What does it look like?

The leaves of Elaeagnus are rounded at both ends, shiny silvery beneath and dotted with brown, star-shaped scales. Its stems are reddish with occasional long thorns.

Why is it a problem?

Birds spread the seed and it invades all types of shrublands, open areas within forest, roadsides, and abandoned hedges, reverted farm sites, and wasteland areas.

How do I get rid of it?

- Wear gloves and eye protection when working with Elaeagnus as its spines can cause injury.
- Cut the tree down or make downward cuts around the base of the tree and apply 250ml glyphosate (360g/l e.g. Round-up®) per litre water or neat Brushkiller (triclopyr (300g/l) + picloram (100g/l)) to the point of runoff within 15 minutes; or
- Drill 12-14mm holes at 200mm intervals around the trunk and fill with 10-15mls of 250ml glyphosate per litre water or undiluted Brushkiller or 20 g metsulfuron-methyl per litre water; or
- Spray with 65 ml brush killer per 10 litres water or 5g metsulfuron-methyl per 10 litres water on small plants and regrowth. Treatment may need to be repeated. Add 10 ml penetrant per 10 litres water.



GORSE

Ulex europaeus

What does it look like?

Gorse is a deep-rooted, woody perennial shrub that can grow up to 4m tall. It has densely spined branches and is woody when mature. Gorse has thin, bright yellow flowers from May to November with black seed pods in summer.

Why is it a problem?

Gorse affects large areas of land and can be found in a wide range of soil types. It very quickly colonises new areas, forming dense thickets. It invades pasture and roadsides, provides habitat for pests like rabbits – and its seed can live for a long time in the soil.

How do I get rid of it?

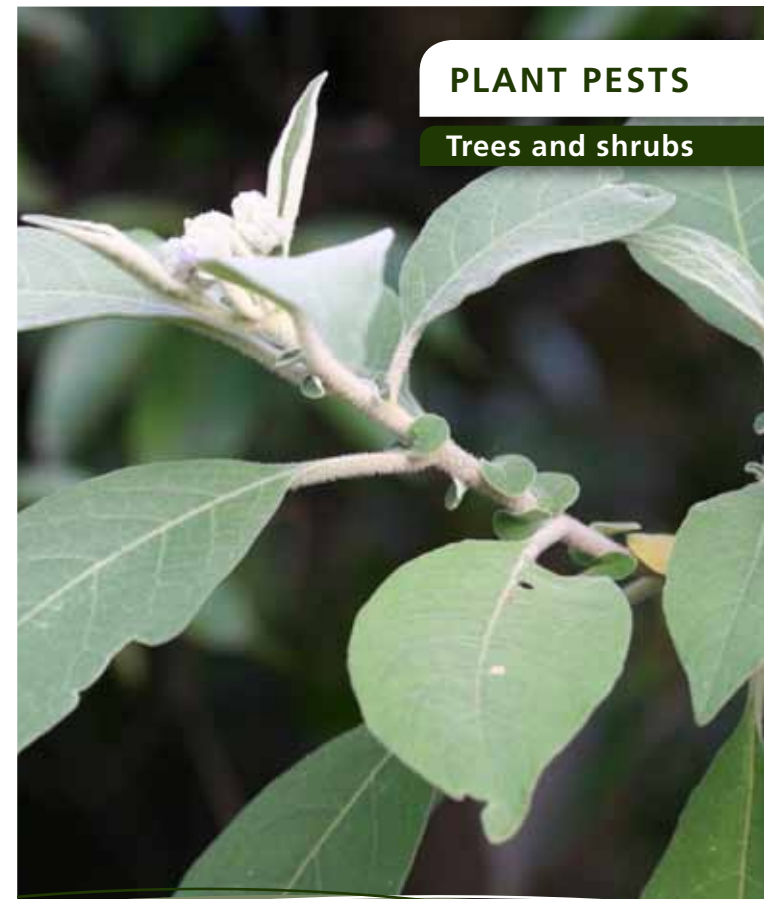
- Spray with 5g metsulfuron-methyl (600g/kg e.g. Escort®) + 10 ml penetrant per 10 litres water; or
- Gun and hose at a rate of 35g metsulfuron-methyl + 100ml penetrant per 100 litres water.

Contact us:

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PLANT PESTS

Trees and shrubs



Trees and shrubs

- > Cestrum species
- > Cotoneaster
- > Elaeagnus
- > Gorse
- > Lantana
- > Mickey mouse plant
- > Privet
- > Taiwan cherry
- > Wilding pines
- > Woolly nightshade

Putting Northland first



LANTANA

Lantana camara

Also known as: shrub verbena, wild sage, yellow sage, and red flowered sage

What does it look like?

Lantana is a low, erect or scrambling shrub with backwards-pointing prickles and a strong root system. Its leaves are strong-smelling when crushed, wrinkly and more or less oval, with dense, often prickly hairs on the upper surface. Its small flowers can be many different colours.

Why is it a problem?

It is toxic to stock – especially wilted leaves – and birds disperse the seeds. It invades dry coastal areas, sand dunes, forest and shrubland margins, disturbed sites, roadsides, quarries, exotic tree plantations, and wasteland.

How do I get rid of it?

- Spray (best done in November-December) with 100 ml glyphosate (360g/l e.g. Round-up®)+ 10ml penetrant per 10 litres water; or
- Cut down and paint stump (all year round) with 200ml glyphosate per litre water.



TAIWAN CHERRY

Prunus campanulata

What does it look like?

The Taiwanese cherry is a deciduous tree that grows up to 8m high. Its leaves are serrated, thin, and cherry-like. The flowers are deep pink, bell-shaped in clusters and it has shiny scarlet fruit 1cm across from October to December.

Why is it a problem?

Birds spread the seed and it invades all types of shrublands, light gaps in the forest, and roadsides.

How do I get rid of it?

- Cut the tree down or make downward cuts around the base of the tree and apply 250ml glyphosate (360g/l e.g. Round-up®) per litre to the point of runoff within 15 minutes; or
- Drill 12-14mm holes at 200mm intervals around the trunk and fill with 10-15mls of undiluted glyphosate; or
- Spray (during summer) with 5g metsulfuron-methyl (600g/kg e.g. Escort®) per 10 litres water or 60ml Brushkiller per 10 litres water.



MICKEY MOUSE PLANT

Ochna serrulata

Also known as: ochna, bird's eye bush, and small-leaved plane

The Mickey Mouse plant is listed as an eradication plant under the regional council's Northland Regional Pest Management Strategies 2010-2015. This means the regional council will eradicate any plants found.

What does it look like?

The Mickey Mouse plant is a small shrub that has oval, alternate leaves with toothed-leaf margins. In spring the foliage is pinkish-bronze maturing to glossy green. It has round, black berry-like fruits attached to red sepals, which look like Mickey Mouse's face – hence the name – from November to February.

Why is it a problem?

Birds spread the seed and it recently naturalised in New Zealand. It can form a dense monoculture – an area where nothing else grows – that stops native species from regenerating.

How do I get rid of it?

- Cut the tree down or make downward cuts around the base of the tree and apply 33ml triclopyr (600g/l e.g. Grazon®) per litre to the point of runoff within 15 minutes; or
- Spray with 330ml triclopyr + 10ml penetrant per 10 litres water



WILDING PINES

Pinus contorta and other species

What does it look like?

Wilding pines are an evergreen pine tree with two needle leaves per bundle. Its bark is grey on the surface with fissures of reddish brown that form small plates.

Why is it a problem?

It is a prolific seeder, early maturing, tall, and long-lived. Wilding pines can grow in a range of conditions and they form dense, often pure stands, especially on poor soils. It can become a permanent canopy species. Plantations suck up ground water in summer and fail to keep it in winter, causing drought and flooding. Leaf litter prevents understorey plants from growing, affects water quality and can destroy freshwater habitats.

How do I get rid of it?

- Drill holes at 100mm intervals around the trunk and put in 20mls of 20g metsulfuron-methyl (600g/kg e.g. Escort®) per 1 litre water.



Tree privet



Chinese privet

PRIVET

Ligustrum lucida and *L. sinense*

What does it look like?

Tree privet is a large tree that grows up to 10m high. Its leaves are oval and glossy with long panicles or clusters of small, cream-coloured fragrant flowers from November to March. Its fruit is bluish or purplish-black. **Chinese privet** is a small tree that grows to 5m high. Its leaves are dull green and it has white, fragrant flowers from September to December. Its fruit is dull black.

Why is it a problem?

The seed of both species is spread by birds. **Tree privet** replaces mid-canopy trees in the forest, comparable in height to taraire, towai and pōhutukawa. It may completely dominate an area of forest in time. **Chinese privet** spreads in farm hedges, along roadsides, stream-sides, wastelands and disused railway lines and forest remnants. The scent of the flowers from both species may aggravate allergies.

How do I get rid of it?

- Cut the tree down or make downward cuts around the base of the tree and apply 5g metsulfuron-methyl (600 g/kg e.g. Escort®) per 10 litres water or undiluted glyphosate (360g/l e.g. Round-up®) to the point of runoff within 15 minutes; or
- Drill holes at 200mm intervals around the trunk and fill with 10-15mls of 5g metsulfuron-methyl per 1 litre water or undiluted glyphosate; or
- Spray with 5g metsulfuron-methyl per 10 litres water.



WOOLLY NIGHTSHADE

Solanum mauritanium

Also known as: flannel weed, tobacco weed

What does it look like?

The leaves look "woolly" or like "felt" and have a strong smell that's similar to kerosene, especially when they are rubbed or crushed.

Why is it a problem?

Birds spread the seed and the plant invades pasture, native forest margins and urban areas. It can form pure colonies – where there is nothing but woolly nightshade – crowding out and suppressing all other plants.

How do I get rid of it?

- Cut the tree down or make downward cuts around the base of the tree and apply undiluted glyphosate (360g/l e.g. Round-up®); or 200ml Brushkiller (triclopyr (300g/l) + picloram (100g/l)) per litre water to the point of runoff within 15 minutes; or
- Drill 12-14mm holes at 200mm intervals around the trunk and fill with 10-15mls of undiluted glyphosate or 200ml Brushkiller per litre water; or
- Spray with 25ml Brushkiller +10ml penetrant to 10l water.

Trees and shrubs

This information brochure provides details on some of the common pest trees and shrubs you'll find in Northland, what to look for, why these plants are a problem and methods to get rid of them.

CONTROL METHODS

There is a range of methods available to control pest plants. The following recommendations – which are only a sample of those available – are based on safe-use methods that have proven effective.

- Physical removal of the plant and all fragments to a land fill is the best organic method.
- Slashing, mowing or otherwise removing plant material and then treating the stumps or regrowth reduces the amount of chemicals needed. Apply chemical within 15 minutes of cutting.
- Spray is recommended for large areas. For aerial rates contact your local biosecurity officer.
- Penetrant aids the uptake of herbicides – there is a range available, e.g. Pulse®, Boost®, Freeway, Dewdrop, Kiwi Buddy Uptake crop oil, etc.
- Follow-up is always recommended until all the seed has gone from the soil.

Caution: when using any herbicide or pesticide **PLEASE READ THE LABEL THOROUGHLY** and follow all instructions and safety requirements.

More information on these and other pest plants is also available at:

www.nrc.govt.nz/pestmanagement

www.weedbusters.org.nz

www.arc.govt.nz

www.ebop.govt.nz



CESTRUM SPECIES

Cestrum elegans, *C. fasciculatum*, *C. nocturnum*, *C. parqui*

Also known as: red, purple, orange, green and Chilean cestrum and Queen of the night

What does it look like?

These plants have offensive-smelling leaves that are spaced alternately, lance-shaped and may be wavy, hairless or hairy and are less than 12cm long. It has tubular flowers – from November to May – of various colours which smell offensive by day, but often fragrant by night. It also has clusters of small, shiny red, purplish or white berries.

Why is it a problem?

Cestrum species are extremely toxic to farm animals and toxic to humans. Dense infestations prevent regeneration of native species.

How do I get rid of it?

Control methods should only be used when it is in flower. Wear gloves and keep stock out at all times.

- Cut the tree down and apply 100ml triclopyr (600g/l e.g. Grazon®) per litre to the point of runoff within 15 minutes; or
- Spray with 60ml triclopyr + 10ml penetrant per 10 litres water.



COTONEASTER

Cotoneaster glaucophyllus

Also known as: bright bead Cotoneaster, *Cotoneaster serotinus*

What does it look like?

Cotoneaster has distinctive bunches of small red berries from February to August. Mature Cotoneaster leaves are a blue/green colour on the underside while young leaves are buff-white underneath.

Why is it a problem?

It is a direct competitor with native shrub species and can form pure stands in native shrubland, bluffs, and steep and rocky habitats. Birds spread the seed and it may reach offshore islands.

How do I get rid of it?

- Cut the tree down or make downward cuts around the base of the tree and apply 5g metsulfuron-methyl (600 g/kg e.g. Escort®) per 10 litres water to the point of runoff within 15 minutes; or
- Drill 12-14mm holes at 200mm intervals around the trunk and fill with 10-15mls of 5g metsulfuron-methyl per 10 litres water; or
- Spray with 5g metsulfuron-methyl per 10 litres water.