



Worst Weeds in the Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board Area



Moth Plant

Araujia hortorum

- Vine with pointed leaves and clusters of creamy coloured flowers. Forms large seed pods.
- Plants are long-lived and can smother trees, weighing them down.
- When pods split, up to 1000 thistle-like seeds are released and parachute on the wind for long distances. Seedlings are shade tolerant and grow rapidly.



Tree Privet

Chinese Privet

Tree Privet and Chinese Privet

Ligustrum lucidum and *Ligustrum sinense*

- Chinese privet is a shrub that grows to five metres and displaces native shrubs on forest margins.
- Tree privet grows to 14m and will dominate areas of forest. Both plants tolerate a wide range of conditions.
- Seed is dispersed by birds. Leaves and fruit of both are poisonous. The perfume contributes to asthma.



Woolly Nightshade

Solanum mauritianum

- Shrub or small tree with grey-green leaves covered with dense felt-like hairs. Has a strong odour. Clusters of purple flowers. Berries ripen to yellow. Shade tolerant.
- Likes to grow in vacant spaces along road edges or in the bush. Can form dense colonies. Dust from leaves can cause health problems.
- Seeds spread by birds.



Wandering Jew, Wandering Willie

Tradescantia fluminensis

- Shade-tolerant ground cover which roots along stems and has small star-shaped flowers. Quickly creeps over large areas forming dense mats.
- Smothers small plants and prevents regeneration of bush.
- Pieces of stem that break off root easily. Plant is spread by people, water and machinery. May cause dermatitis in dogs.



Madeira Vine

Anredera cordifolia

- Hairless perennial creeper with fleshy rhizome. Bright green, alternate, fleshy heart-shaped leaves with reddish-brown stems. Small fragrant, cream flowers (Jan-Apr) in slender spikes. Tubers produced underground & many on aerial stems.
- Climbs over and smothers vegetation beneath it.
- Rarely seeds but readily produces abundant aerial tubers.



Jasmine

Jasminum polyanthum

- Vine which climbs to mid-canopy height, twines around host. Scented white tubular flowers in spring. Tolerates shade, frost and moisture.
- Forms an impenetrable ground cover, smothers vegetation to mid-canopy.
- Spread mainly by garden escapes or dumped garden refuse, and grows rapidly from stem fragments.



Blue Morning Glory

Ipomoea indica

- Vine with distinctive heart-shaped leaves with showy blue-purple convolvulus-type flowers. Grows rapidly in sun or light shade and in wet or dry soil. Invades forest margins, roadsides.
- Smothers native vegetation either as a ground cover or as a climber.
- Spread by stem fragments rooting.



Japanese Honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica

- Vine that grows vigorously, up to 15m in one year. Fragrant cream and yellow flowers are followed by black berries. Tolerates low light, drought and frost. Found on roadsides, forest and wetland margins, coastal areas.
- Climbs over and smothers all vegetation beneath it.
- Rarely seeds but is dispersed by fragments growing.



Wild Ginger, Kahili Ginger

Hedydium gardnerianum

- Herb which grows up to 2m high in sun or shade. Fragrant yellow flowers appear from February to April. Each yellow flower-head produces 100 seeds.
- Grows fast, displacing native forest. Roots build up to an impenetrable mat on forest floor.
- Seed is dispersed by birds.



Agapanthus

Agapanthus praecox

- Type of lily with strappy bright green leaves and showy clusters of blue or white flowers. Prefers sun or semi-shade and colonises roadsides, stream banks and cliffs.
- Grows into dense clumps, excluding other vegetation.
- Spread by natural expansion and deliberate planting. Prolific seeds wash or fall into small niches and grow.



Climbing Asparagus

Asparagus scandens

- Vine that scrambles or climbs. Has soft fern-like foliage and small white flowers in spring, followed by orange berries. Will grow in sun or shade, disturbed sites or deep forest.
- Found throughout much of Auckland where it climbs over and smothers native plants especially seedlings.
- Seeds are spread by birds.



Monkey Apple, Lily Pilly

Syzygium australe, *Syzygium smithii*

- Long-lived, evergreen tree <18m tall. Shiny, oval, opposite leaves release an aromatic fragrance when crushed. Bunches of whitish flowers (Oct-Jan). Heavy crops of white to pink-mauve, berry-like fruit.
- Plants displace slower growing natives in forests and clearings.
- Seeds spread by birds.



Pampas Grass (common and purple)

Cortaderia selloana, *C. jubata*

- Grass forming large clumps up to 4m in height. Large amounts of seed are produced in summer on plume-like stalks, coloured pink, purple or white.
- Pampas out-competes other vegetation, is a fire risk and shelters rabbits, rats and possums.
- Seeds dispersed by wind, water, soil, clothes etc.



Periwinkle

Vinca major

- Prostrate, scrambling, hairless, evergreen perennial <50cm tall. Forms dense mats of long running stems with roots at nodes. Dark green, glossy, leathery leaves, pointy with hairy edges. Blue-violet tubular flowers (with paler centres) <5cm in diameter all year round.
- Smothers small plants and prevents the re-generation of bush.
- Spread by fragments and human transfers.



Field Bindweed, Convolvulus

Convolvulus avensis

- Perennial scrambling or trailing vine to 2m tall. Extensive rhizomes, fibrous roots at nodes. Leaves dark green, often blueish, arrow-, 4 x 2 cm. Flowers broadly funnel-shaped, 3cm diameter, pink or white with purplish-pink stripe on petal centre, Nov-Mar. Seed capsule egg shaped, 6-8mm long, hairless; seeds dark.
- Climbs over and smothers vegetation beneath it.
- Spread mainly by fragments and human transfers.



Arundo Grass, Giant Reed

Arundo donax

- Grass that forms bamboo-like clumps, growing to five metres in height. Forms a dense root mat of short rhizomes. Bears feathery, plume-like flower-heads.
- Displaces surrounding vegetation and impedes drainage. Provides habitat for pests such as rats and possums.
- Spread by people or waterways.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON PEST PLANTS GO TO

- Auckland Regional Pest Management Strategy:** www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/environmentwaste/biosecurity
- Weeds in Auckland:** www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/environmentwaste/biosecurity
- Weedbusters:** www.weedbusters.org.nz
- New Zealand Plant Protection Society:** www.nzpps.org
- National Pest Plant Accord:** www.biosecurity.govt.nz/nppa
- Forest & Bird:** www.forestandbird.org.nz
- Biosecurity:** for more information on biosecurity please call Auckland Council on 09 301 0101

SYMBOLS KEY



Dig or hand pull



Paint stump



Spray



See over for control methods tailored to each plant



and

How to control them



Control of Moth Plant

- Collect seed pods, seal in a bag and dispose of in the rubbish.
- Dig or pull out seedlings. Avoid skin contact with sap.
- Cut vines near the ground and paint stump with picloram gel.
- Spray in summer with 120ml triclopyr/10L water.



Messages for weed warriors

- Pest plants destroy native forest and habitat
- Most pest plants were introduced as garden plants
- Spray is best used when the plant is actively growing
- It is best to treat pest plants before they flower
- If stump painting, do so immediately after the cut
- Do not be disheartened, every little bit of weeding helps!

Control of Tree Privet and Chinese Privet

- Pull up seedlings. Small plants can be composted, but all flowers should be disposed of in compost or garden waste collection service bin.
- Cut and paint the stump with 1g metsulfuron /1L water.
- Spray with 5g metsulfuron + 10ml penetrant/10L water.



Control of Woolly Nightshade

- Pull up and compost small plants, or dispose of in garden waste collection service bin.
- Cut and paint stump with picloram gel.
- Paint a 70cm high collar around stem with picloram gel to kill tree while still standing.
- Spray with 60ml triclopyr + 10ml penetrant/10L water.



Control of Wandering Jew

- Rake or hand clear small areas starting from the outer edge. Take care as each dropped fragment may grow.
- Dispose of in garden waste collection service bin or compost.
- Spray 60ml triclopyr+10ml penetrant/10L water for 90% kill rate. Repeat treatment most likely necessary.



Control of Madeira Vine, Mignonette Vine

- Cut and dig out roots and dispose of in with the household rubbish. Remember to pick up all of the tubers where possible.
- Cut the vines near the ground and paint with picloram gel.
- Pull vines off desirable plants and spray with 5g/10L Metsulfuron and 5ml/10L penetrant.



Control of Jasmine

- Cut vines and dispose of in compost or through garden waste collection service bin.
- Cut and paint vines wherever they root with 5g metsulfuron + 1ml penetrant/1L water.
- Cut back and spray regrowth in summer 5g metsulfuron + 10ml penetrant/10L water.



Control of Blue Morning Glory

- Hand pull small infestations, and dispose of in compost or garden waste collection service bin.
- Cut and paint stems with 100ml glyphosate/1L water.
- Cut vines at waist high and spray below this with 100ml glyphosate + 20ml penetrant /10L water.



Control of Japanese Honeysuckle

- Cut and dig out roots. Dispose of in compost or garden waste collection service bin.
- Cut and paint 5g metsulfuron/1L water, or 60ml/L triclopyr/1L water, or picloram.
- Large vines can be cut at chest height and sprayed 5g metsulfuron+10ml penetrant/10L water or 60ml triclopyr/10L water.



Control of Wild Ginger, Kahili Ginger

- Hand pull young seedlings. Dispose of in compost or garden waste collection service bin.
- Cut above the pink collar and paint stump with 1g metsulfuron/1L water. Can compost cut stems if no seeds or flowers are attached.
- Spray dense patches, avoiding surrounding plants, with 5g metsulfuron+10ml penetrant/10L water.



Control of Agapanthus

- Isolated plants can be dug out.
- Dispose of in compost or garden waste collection service bin.
- Spray with 60ml triclopyr + 20ml penetrant/10L water.
- Cut leaves off at base and paint the fresh stump quickly
- with triclopyr 100ml/1Lwater. Leaves can be composted.
- Begin eradication at the top of a slope and work down. Repeat treatment will usually be needed.



Control of Climbing Asparagus

- Hand pull small plants. Make sure you remove tuberous roots. Dispose of in compost or through garden waste collection service bin.
- Follow ups will be required to ensure total control of this pest plant.
- Spray lightly to avoid run-off with 200ml glyphosate/10L water. Ensure complete coverage



Control of Monkey apple

- Pull up and compost small plants. Dispose of flowers and seeds in garden collection service bin.
- Cut and paint with Picloram Gel.
- Follow ups may be required to ensure all seedlings are controlled.
- Spray seedlings with 5g triclopyr/10L water and 5ml Penetrant/10L.



Control of Pampas Grass

- Dig out small plants.
- Cut flower heads and dispose of in household rubbish – compost the remainder.
- Spray with 150ml haloxyfop + 50ml crop oil/10L water.
- Distinguish pampas from desirable native toetoe by checking the base of the plant. If the dead leaves curl like wood shavings, the plant is pampas.
- Dispose of in compost or through garden waste collection service bin.



Control of Periwinkle

- Hand pull and dig infestations and dispose of in garden collection service bin.
- Control will need to be followed up several times to achieve eradication.
- Foliar spray with 200ml glyphosate /10L water and 5ml penetrant /10L water.



Control of Field Bindweed

- Cut and dig out roots and dispose of in garden collection service bins.
- Requires regular follow-up and spray re-growth"
- Pull vines off desirable plants and spray with 60ml/10L Triclopyr or 100ml/10L Glyphosate 360 and 5ml/10L penetrant.



Control of Arundo Grass

- Cut close to the ground. Dispose of tops in weed bin as they may re-root.
- Regular follow up and control is likely to be required for around two years after initial control.
- Spray re-growth before it reaches 60 cm with 150ml haloxyfop + 50ml crop oil/10L water. May require four to six treatments.



Dispose of weeds safely

Weeds can be spread by not disposing of them properly. It is an offence to dump weeds along roadsides or in bush. Compost your weeds if you can.

Take your environmental weeds to the nearest transfer station that accepts green waste. In Mangere-Otahuhu there are transfer stations at the following places:

- Onehunga: 81 Captain Springs Rd (09 636 6635)
- Wiri: 196 Wiri Station Road (Corner of Wiri Station Road and Langley Road) (09 250 0214)
- East Tamaki: 33 Neales Road (09 2745287)

Contact them first to find out if any of your environmental weeds are not accepted as green waste. In rural areas, for alternative options such as outdoor burning please visit the Auckland council website or contact rural fire for free advice go to: www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/ruralfire or email ruralfire@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Spray safety

- Handle herbicides carefully and store out of reach of children.
- Keep children, neighbours and neighbours plants a safe distance from the spray.
- Follow the instructions on the packaging carefully.
- Always wear liquid-proof gloves when mixing sprays and keep utensils for the purpose.
- Using a spray hood prevents spray drift.
- Take a course for a Growsafe Certificate: www.growsafe.co.nz
- Ask your retailer for the brand name of sprays, or 'google'.

This poster has been adapted from one developed by the Waitākere Branch of the Royal Forest and Bird Society and the Waitākere Ranges Local Board.