

Have you seen these **Pest Plants**?



Moth plant *Araujia hortorum*

Also known as: cruel plant, kapok vine, *Araujia sericifera*
Evergreen vine up to 6m tall. Large choko-like seed pods which split, releasing up to 1000 seeds. Poisonous sap is an irritant. Arrowhead-like leaves with clusters of small creamy, tubular flowers (Dec-May).



Woolly nightshade *Solanum mauritianum*

Also known as: tobacco weed, flannel leaf, kerosene plant
Tree up to 8m tall. Leaves smell of kerosene and are covered in dense felt-like hairs. Clusters of purple flowers at end of branches; has toxic yellow berries with many seeds. Dust from the plant irritates skin, eyes, nose and throat.



Wild ginger *Hedychium gardnerianum*

Also known as: kahili ginger
Grows up to 2m with large, branching rhizomes (roots) that form dense layers up to a metre deep. Large wax-covered leaves; yellow flowers with red stamens (Feb-Apr). Can produce over 100 seeds per flower head.



Bushy asparagus *Asparagus aethiopicus*

Also known as: *Asparagus densiflorus*
Spiny evergreen, scrambling herb with thick mat of tuberous roots. Stems have numerous branchlets with 10mm-long spines. Small white flowers (Oct-Mar) and red berries.

What you can do

Many introduced plants are weeds that compete with or replace native species and can cause serious harm to our natural environment, including regional parks in this area. The plants above are listed as Containment Pest Plants in the Auckland Regional Pest Management Strategy 2007-2012. Landowners in the Waitakeres are obliged to control these plants on their property.

For more details please go to: www.arc.govt.nz/biosecurity
Auckland Regional Council biosecurity staff can:

- help you identify plant pests on your property
- provide advice on control methods.

For more information contact ARC Biosecurity on **09 366 2000**.

Examples of Surveillance Pest Plants



Agapanthus

Agapanthus praecox syn. *A. orientalis*



Blue morning glory

Ipomoea indica



Chinese privet

Ligustrum sinense



Climbing asparagus

Asparagus scandens



Cotoneaster

Cotoneaster glaucophyllus, *C. franchetii*



Jasmine

Jasminum polyanthum



Gorse

Ulex spp.



Pampas grass (common & purple)

Cortaderia selloana, *C. Jubata*



Tree privet

Ligustrum lucidum

The above plants are nine of the 155 Surveillance Pest Plants and are subject to control or restrictions under the Auckland Regional Pest Management Strategy 2007-2012. Surveillance Pest Plants are banned from sale, propagation and distribution within the region.

Help keep the Waitakere Ranges a special place by:

- Getting to know which plants are a biosecurity risk
- Controlling pest plants on your property
- Disposing of pest plants safely
- Watching out for the spread of new plants
- Joining community group initiatives in your area.
Please refer to the Community Directory in this folder.

