

INVASIVE WEED ALERT

PRIVETS

CHINESE & TREE PRIVET



For help & advice please call

Mangawhai - Martina on 027 4490 464

Waipu to Langs - Coralie on 027 4320 293



HELP US PREVENT PRIVET



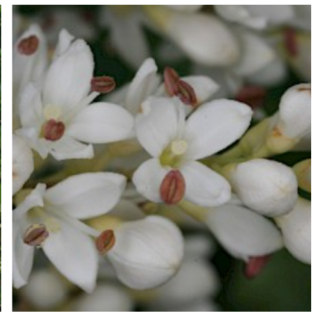
habitat@piroaconservation.org.nz



Tree Privet



Chinese Privet



WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE?

Both Chinese & Tree Privet look similar - small-to-large evergreen, hairless tree or dense shrub (<15+ m) with distinctive lumpy warts on the stems. Dark green leaves (5-13 x 3-6 cm) are glossy on the top surface and arranged in opposite pairs on the stems. Tiny fragrant, creamy flowers make up flowerheads (25 x 20 cm, Nov-Mar) and are followed by bluish or purplish-black berry-like fruit (6 x 5 mm) coated with a powdery 'bloom'.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

Both types of privet produce many highly-viable seeds. They are fast-growing, very long-lived (100+ years) and form very dense, tall stands. Very tolerant of shade, frost, damage, grazing, all well-drained soil types, high to moderate temperatures, damp or drought conditions, salt and wind. Forms dense carpet of seedlings on forest floor, and grows through understorey to dominate and replace canopy trees in most forest types. Poisonous berries may possibly impact on native fauna, especially insects.

CONTROL METHODS

Physical control - Pull or dig seedlings (all year round). Leave on site to rot down.

Untreated stumps resprout. Reseeds profusely in bared areas. Follow up 6-monthly, easiest to spot during spring flowering. Don't replant until seedling regrowth ceases, as privet will grow through groundcover

Herbicide control - cut & paste the stem/trunk as close to the ground as possible and cover the entire stump with herbicide as soon as possible after cutting. Apply either glyphosate gel (120g/L strength) or metsulfuron gel (10g/l strength) to the entire cut stem.

Alternatively drill downward sloping holes around the trunk about 8-10 cm apart, or Frill (make deep cuts into the sapwood at regular intervals around the base of the tree, taking care not to ring-bark the plant). Fill the holes or saturate the cuts with metsulfuron-methyl 600 g/kg (20-50g/L + penetrant) or a product containing 100g picloram+300g triclopyr/L (undiluted).

CAUTION: When using any herbicide or pesticide, PLEASE READ THE LABEL THOROUGHLY to ensure that all instructions and safety requirements are followed.