



INVASIVE WEED ALERT
CLIMBING
ASPARAGUS



For help & advice
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What does it look like?

Slender scrambling or climbing perennial with tuberous roots, and long green, thin, wiry stems (2-4 m long) that are much branched at the top. Leaves ((5-15 mm x 1-1.5 mm) are flat cladodes (leaf-like structures, resembling miro), and are usually in groups of three at each node. Tiny whitish flowers (Sep-Dec) are followed by round berries (8 mm diameter, Oct-Feb) that ripen from green to orange-red and contain 1-2 seeds each.

What damage does it do?

Smothers forest floor and understorey to 4 m, preventing the establishment of native plant seedlings and growth of established species. Raises light levels, causing the invasion of further weeds.

Can ringbark and kill soft-barked shrubs and trees, and invades areas where epiphytes are usually found, replacing already vulnerable species

Which habitats is it likely to invade?

Disturbed and intact lowland and coastal forest, shrublands, mature broadleaf and/or podocarp forests, epiphyte niches, and forest edges.

Control Methods

- Maintain rolling front of control, work out from inner bush.
- Dig out crowns and hang in the tree to die. Other plant material can be left on site to rot down.
- New trials suggest glyphosate (360g/l) at 3.5ml per litre of water without penetrant. Lower concentration does not affect native trees but good coverage will kill climbing asparagus.

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

