

PLANT PEST CONTROL

LAND PLANT PESTS

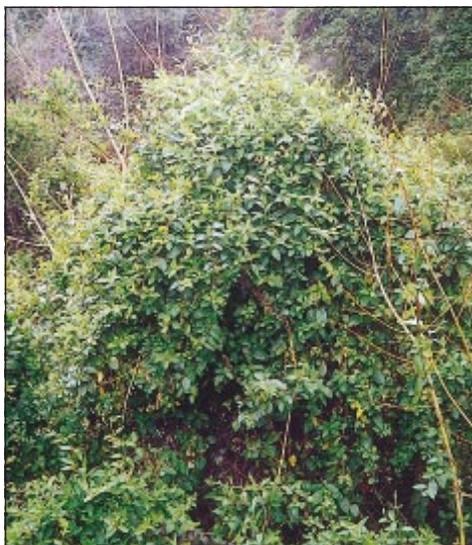
Japanese Honeysuckle: *Lonicera japonica*

Why is this a problem?

Japanese honeysuckle is a vigorous, perennial, climbing vine. It has the ability to smother young trees, completely covering them from sunlight. Damage is most extensive on young or regenerating bush.

Japanese honeysuckle is designated as a TOTAL CONTROL plant pest in specified areas. This means the land occupier must destroy all Japanese honeysuckle plants before the production of hard seed within the specified areas.

For details of the control areas and other requirements, please refer to the Regional Plant Pest and Animal Pest Management Strategy or contact the Biosecurity Plant Pest Officers at the Hawke's Bay Regional Council.



A Japanese honeysuckle smothering a small tree.

What does it look like?

- Japanese honeysuckle is an evergreen vine (semi-evergreen in cold climates).
- Stems are purplish, long, tough and hairy, and twine in a clockwise direction.
- Leaves are oval, stalkless or on short stalks and are in opposite pairs.
- Flowers are sweetly scented, tubular and coloured white, ageing to yellow.
- Flowers occur between September and May.
- Berries are glossy, black and egg shaped, 5-7 mm in diameter. The seeds within the berries are about 2mm in diameter.



Tubular flowers of the Japanese honeysuckle and typical opposite pairs of oval leaves.

Where is it found?

Most infestations of Japanese honeysuckle in Hawke's Bay occur from the Esk valley to northern Wairoa. Plants occur along roadsides and riverbanks, hedges, trees, disturbed bush and at the bush edge. As it is palatable to stock it is generally only found in retired areas, usually in the margins.

What is the best way to control the plant?

Chemical Control

Hand cut vines and paint the freshly cut base stems with a recommended herbicide.

For larger infestations spray the whole plant with an a recommended herbicide. The herbicide must not be harmful to native fauna, beneath or around the Japanese honeysuckle.

Apply herbicides following label requirements. Consult your Biosecurity Plant Pest Officer for the latest control recommendations

Biological Control

Stock grazing will control the growth of Japanese honeysuckle.

For further information

If you think you may have this plant pest on your property, please contact the Biosecurity Plant Pest Officers at Hawke's Bay Regional Council for advice and we will work with you to eradicate it.

Wairoa 06 838 8527

Napier 06 835 9200

Waipukurau 06 858 8636

TOLL FREE 0800 108 838

www.hbrc.govt.nz

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