

BOMAREA SPECIES

(*Bomarea caldasii* and *Bomarea multiflora*)



Bomarea

There are several large infestations of this climbing vine in bush remnants and private gardens in Dunedin City.

The bright orange fruits are eagerly eaten by birds and dispersed over considerable distances.

WHY IS BOMAREA A PEST PLANT?

If left uncontrolled bomarea can smother and eventually destroy favourite plants in your garden.

Bomarea invades remnant forest and shrubland interiors. The vines grow into the tree canopy and form large masses, which overtop and smother the supporting trees.

Seedlings can establish in the shade of forest interior, creeping along the ground, strangling saplings and smothering low growing species.

Extensive infestations in the tree canopy alter light levels, which can kill mature trees and prevent the establishment of native species.



HOW DO I IDENTIFY BOMAREA?

Leaves are thin, pale green, elongated and pointed. Trumpet shaped flowers are produced in dense drooping clusters of 15–20 flowers.

They are tinged red outside and are bright yellow with red spots on

the inside. Flowering can occur at any time but primarily in the summer. The fruit is a capsule that ripens and splits to reveal bright orange/red fleshy seeds, dispersed by birds.

Under ground the plant consists of a long rhizome with roots and tubers that look like potatoes. The size of the rhizome and tubers varies depending on the age of the plant.

SUGGESTED CONTROL OPTIONS

To prevent the spread of seed, remove all flowers and seeds as they appear. Place seed pods in a black plastic bag, letting the sun cook the contents before disposing of them. Where possible, cut the aerial vines and dig out all the rhizomes. Regrowth can occur from any rhizome fragments left in the soil.

The use of glyphosate based products such as Turbo 300, G360 or Roundup has been found to be effective at a mixing rate of 1.5 to 2%. Vigilant or equivalent gel is also very effective when applied to freshly cut vines. It is not recommended that Vigilant is used too close to valuable or desirable species.

To protect the host plant from chemical damage, remove the bomarea, place it on the ground and then spray. Alternatively, cut the vines 150mm above ground level and spray or paint the freshly cut stems. (Beware of non-target damage as glyphosate is non selective).

Disclaimer: *Mention of product trade names does not endorse these products nor imply criticism of similar products not mentioned. Although this fact sheet has been prepared in good faith, the Otago Regional Council does not give any warranty that the information is accurate or complete or that it is suitable for all circumstances.*

LAND OCCUPIER OBLIGATIONS

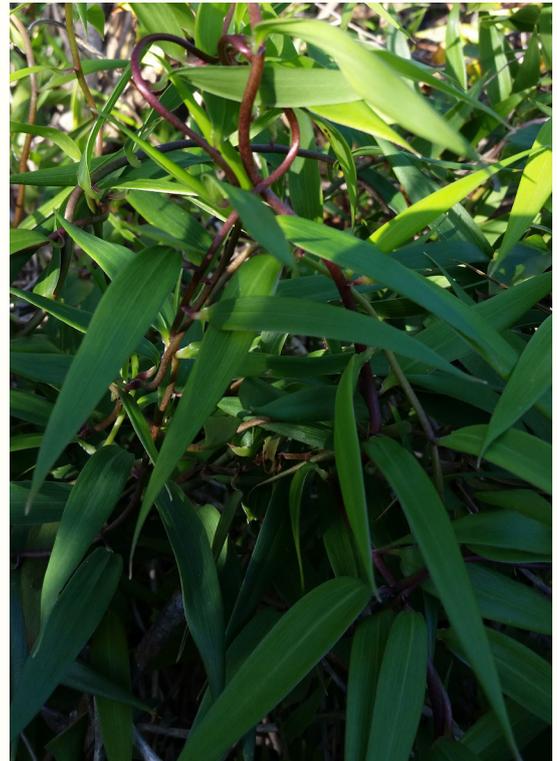
Under the Pest Management Strategy for Otago, land occupiers are required by law to destroy any bomarea on their land.

FOLLOW UP MANAGEMENT

Control of a pest plant is not a one-off task. Follow up action must regularly be undertaken. The site must be checked for regrowth from underground rhizomes and seedling establishment. Plant a friendly alternative such as native Clematis.



Mature vine showing flowers and seed clusters



Mature vines

For our future

70 Stafford St, Private Bag 1954, Dunedin 9054 | **ph** (03) 474 0827 or 0800 474 082 | **www.orc.govt.nz**

 Find us on facebook

 otagoRC