

CLIMBING SPINDLEBERRY

Celastrus orbiculatus

Management programme

Exclusion	Eradication	Progressive containment	Sustained control	Site-led
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Impacts

Economic	Biodiversity	Soil resources	Water quantity/quality
Human health	Social and cultural wellbeing	Amenity/recreation	Animal welfare

Objectives

Reduce the amount of climbing spindleberry and limit the locations that have it within the Waikato region.

Why is it a pest?

Climbing spindleberry is a rapidly growing, scrambling climber, with suckering roots and stems that can take root when they touch the ground. Its stems can strangle host plants and climb to the top of most canopies, causing them to collapse. Layering stems become dense, forming impenetrable thickets. It has the potential to aggressively invade a wide range of terrestrial habitats from scrub to forest, adversely affecting native species by smothering or displacing them. It's also a threat to production forestry with a demonstrated potential to strangle pines.

Climbing spindleberry's bird-dispersed seeds can spread far from parent plants and are viable for up to five years. It's tolerant of different environmental conditions including hot to very cold temperatures, shade (where seeds germinate best) and high to moderately low rainfall.

Responsibility for control

Waikato Regional Council is responsible for the control of climbing spindleberry within the region. If you think you've seen it, call us – don't try to control it yourself.

- All occupiers are encouraged to report climbing spindleberry on their properties (rule CLS-1 of the *Regional Pest Management Plan 2022-2032*) and to liaise with the Waikato Regional Council in areas where control programmes are in place.
- If climbing spindleberry is present on a property that is to be subdivided or developed, there are additional rules and requirements that apply under section 6.6 of the RPMP 2022-2032.

Climbing spindleberry is banned from being sold, propagated, distributed, or included in commercial displays.

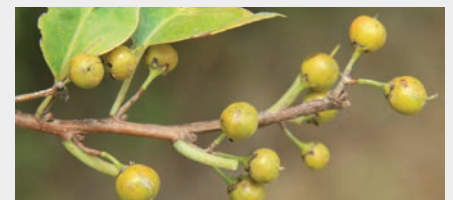
What does it look like?

Climbing spindleberry is a woody perennial vine. It is deciduous. The outer surface of its roots is characteristically bright orange.



Flower

- Small flowers (4mm-10mm) are pale green in colour, in clusters.
- Flowers are present in November.



Fruit/seed

- Leaves are glossy, variable, usually oval, and most have drip tips.
- They are finely toothed and arranged alternately along the stem.
- Each leaf is around 50mm-100mm long (up to 150mm in shade).
- Leaves are green in colour, turning bright yellow in autumn before falling.



Leaves/stems

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