

Cathedral bells (*Cobaea scandens*)



Bell-shaped flowers

Cathedral Bells is a vigorous, fast-growing perennial vine that grows over trees and shrubs in open forest-edge situations and elsewhere.

As its name suggests, Cathedral Bells has bell-shaped flowers that are green when young and then turn purple after the pollen has been shed. Shallow rooted, the vine has hairless leaves that are divided into three pairs of leaflets, with the terminal pair of leaflets modified into tendrils. The large, oval fruit open during summer to release the winged seeds that can be dispersed by wind or water. Cut or broken stems can take root. The stems are often up to 10 metres long but less than 2 cm in diameter.

Hand pull young plants. Cut the vines during a dry spell, dig out the roots and then deep bury or burn all plant material or otherwise dispose of it safely. Alternatively, cut away all the vines and paint the cut rooted stumps with herbicide.

Contact your Regional Council for advice on control.