

Madeira vine* (*Anredera cordifolia*)



Produces small irregular warty tubers

*** Also known as Mignonette vine**

Madeira vine is a tuberous climber mostly found in coastal areas or other areas with few frosts, especially in scrub-covered gullies and other wastelands.

It has succulent, heart-shaped leaves and produces small irregular warty tubers where leaves join the stem. The slender climbing stems are often reddish in colour and bear long, hanging, grape-like bunches of small white, fragrant flowers between January and April. Fruit are not formed in New Zealand.

Rhizomes and stem tubers of the Madeira vine are hard to kill and establish new plants readily. The plant is spread by dumped garden rubbish, or when the tubers and rhizomes are carried by water.

Plants can be pulled out but it is important to remove and burn all the rhizome and stem tuber material. The vegetation and rhizomes can be placed in black plastic and left to cook in the sun. For large infestations, repeated spraying of the plants with herbicide is necessary to kill the tubers. Alternatively the vines can be cut and the rooted stumps painted with herbicide, but the aerial shoots must be raked up and disposed of safely.

Contact your Regional Council for advice on control methods.