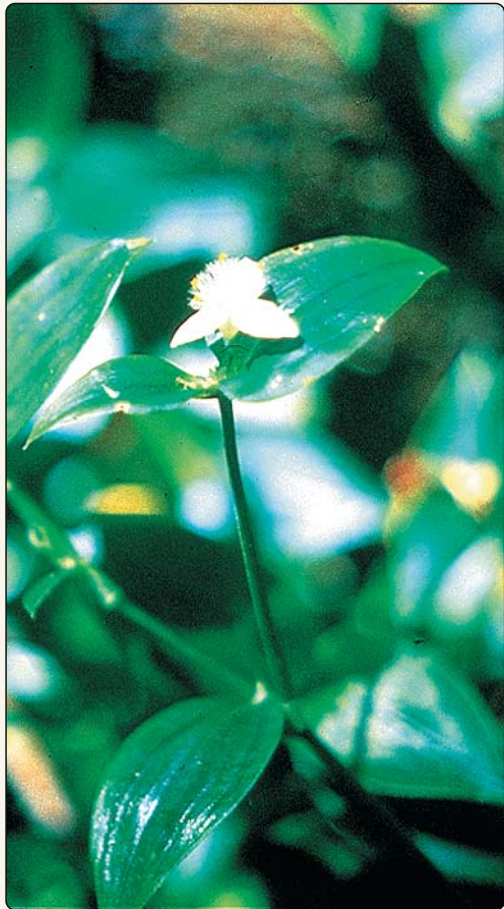


Wandering Jew (*Tradescantia fluminensis*)



Ground
Cover



Foliage and flower

Wandering Jew is a common and locally abundant trailing plant that grows in cool, moist and shaded conditions. Includes stream and wetland margins, and lowland forests. The plant is also quite resistant to drought.

Wandering Jew is hairless, with shiny oval leaves that form a sheath around the stem. The plant produces clusters of star-shaped white flowers, each with three petals, in spring. The succulent stems break easily and root readily at nodes, forming extensive and sometimes deep carpets of vegetation.

Wandering Jew does not produce seeds but spreads rapidly and is difficult to control. Water and animals pick up and shift fragments of the plant and dumped garden rubbish or road machinery can also initiate new infestations.

To control the plant, rake or hand pull small areas during a dry period and bury deeply or burn. The treatment will need to be repeated several times. Composting does not kill the plant. Weed mat will give control, but it must be left down for some months. For larger areas apply herbicide. Repeat treatment will be necessary.

Contact your Regional Council for advice on control methods.