

Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus agg.*)



Foliage, prickles and flowers

Blackberry is a scrambling prickly shrub, up to 2m tall. Blackberry actually refers to several species and hybrids. All species are European in origin and have become established in many parts of the world. It is common in many areas, invading wastelands, scrub, hedgerows, streamsides and roadsides.

Stems are erect, arching, and covered with numerous prickles. Roots and daughter plants can form at stem tips. Leaves are dark green with a lighter underside and usually shed in winter. White or pink flowers are produced from late November to April, followed by fruit that consist of numerous fleshy segments. Seed is spread by birds or animals.

Infestations may be controlled by cultivation or slashing. Plants may be sprayed or treated with herbicide granules. Good pasture management can also help prevent blackberry establishment.

Contact your Regional Council for advice on control methods.