

WEED FILE: Montbretia

ISSUED: MARCH 2023



Crocasmia xcrocosmiiflora

DESCRIPTION

Montbretia has stiff leaves like grass that grow from perennial corms. Originally from South Africa this garden escapee can be found throughout New Zealand.

Flowering in summer the large attractive red-orange flowers are 4-5cm in diameter, with 6 petals. Flowers can be seen in January-February,

The fruit are small capsules with green sides and contain flattened, triangular reddish-brown seeds about 3mm long.

Leaves are light green and broad-shaped about 2cm wide. Roots are flattened corms about 15 x 35mm, that multiply easily.

Montbretia grows up to 90cm tall on stiff, leafy stems.

HABITAT

Mainly found in waste areas and along the roadside.

DISTRIBUTION

Extremely widespread throughout both the North Island, South Island, and Stewart Island.

IMPORTANT

Regardless of which control method you use, Cape Ivy is best controlled when flowering but before the seeds are produced. When spraying it is better if you can cut the stems below waist height and then spray the actively growing plants (during spring and summer).

MANUAL REMOVAL

Small plants can be dug out all year round. Dispose of vegetation and corms by burning, burying it deeply or at a refuse transfer station.

HERBICIDE CONTROL

Leaf Swabbing

Using a Venetian blind cleaning brush dip in one of the solutions below and wipe up both sides of the leaves:

- **MSF600** at 5g/L of water.
- **Glyphosate 360** at 100ml/L water.
- **Glyphosate 540** at 67ml/L water
- **Granny** at 45g/L water.

Cut'n'Paste

Apply 2-4mm gel wiped onto the underside of the leaves.

- **MetGel, Bamboo Buster or Glimax Professional**

Spraying

Spray at the full leaf stage.

Sadly there are no selective herbicides and all will kill grass and other plants.

- **MSF600** at 4g/10 litres of water.
- **PLUS** any of the following.
- **Glyphosate 360** at 10ml/L,
- **Glyphosate 540** at 6.7ml/L or,
- **Granny** at 4.5g/L.

In all cases when spraying add **SuperWetter** at 10ml per 10 litres of water.

