3 Bio-Control

There is one insect available: Madeira Vine Beetle (Plectonycha correntina).

Both adult and larvae stages feed on the leaves, causing leaf damage and defoliation, and reduce the plant's vigour.

Do not release bio-control insects at sites that have been recently sprayed or that will be sprayed in the coming months.

Place beetles on healthy vine in sunlit areas, preferably where there is plenty of new regrowth. If there is too much shade the insects will relocate.

Eggs

Larvae

Adult

4 Chemical Control Options

In most instances, glyphosate is the preferred herbicide, however, take care to avoid non target species is important. Foliar sprays of residual herbicides can be more effective, but they may impact on other woody plants. Use of residual herbicides should be avoided in sensitive environments.

The current Queensland government guidelines for chemical control are listed on the back of this brochure. Use glyphosate 360 with "frog friendly" wetting agents. Read the label carefully as some "frog friendly" wetter's are dangerous to fish and may not be appropriate in stream-side locations.

METHOD	HERBICIDE	RATE
SCRAPE & PAINT for the primary treatment of medium to large stems	Vigilant gel Glyphosate 360	Paint directly from bottle 360g/L Glyphosate mixed in 1 to 1.5 litres of water
FOLIAR SPRAY for treatment of new growth and secondary treatment after the main vines have been treated by the scrap paint method	Fluroxypyr	20g/L Fluroxypyr at 50ml to 10 litre of water 400g/L Fluroxypyr at 25ml to 10 litres of water 360 Glyphosate at 100ml to 10 litres of water Proprietary mixes of Triclopyr (300g/L) + Picloram (100g/L) + Aminopyralid (8g/L) SR mixed at 35-50ml to 10 litres of water (QLD permit 11463) Avoid spraying non-target plants. Best results from spraying in early autumn (March to April). Recommended only when the natural vegetation and understory is dead or weedy or as a follow up treatment.

Cnr Groves & Old Maryborough Roads, Gympie

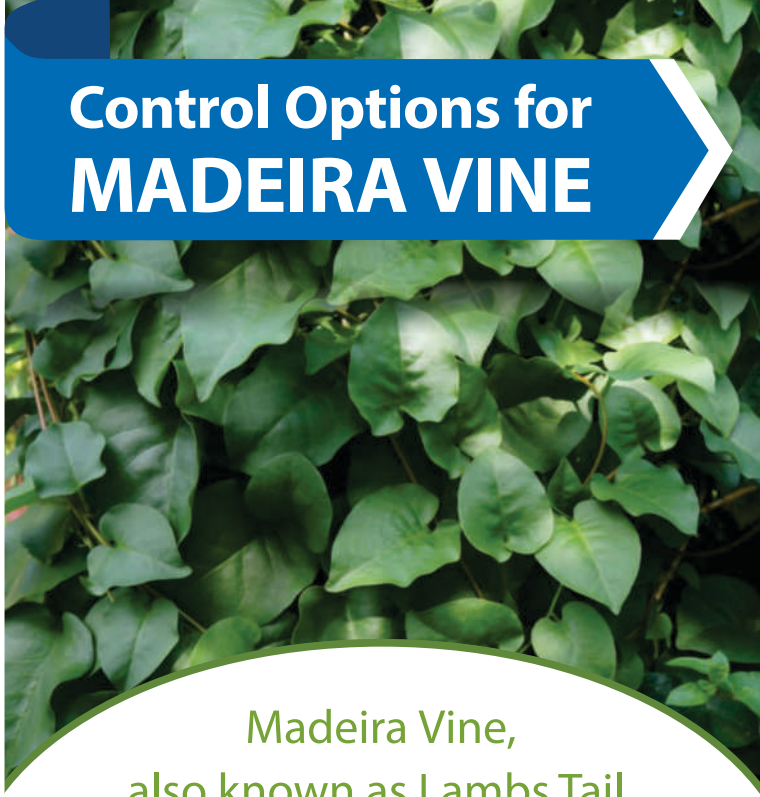
07 5483 8866

NURSERY OPEN
WED - FRIDAY 8:30am to 3:30pm
SATURDAY 9:00am to 1:00pm

OFFICE OPEN
TUES - THURS 8:30am to 5:00pm
FRIDAY 8:30am to 4:00pm

www.gympielandcare.org.au

Control Options for MADEIRA VINE



Madeira Vine, also known as Lambs Tail, is well established in the upper Mary River catchment and is scattered throughout the Gympie Region.

Gympie & District Landcare Group

www.gympielandcare.org.au

Madeira Vine is likely to become more of a problem in the Gympie Region than Cats Claw Creeper. Madeira vine can densely carpet the ground smothering understory vegetation and prevent recruitment of young plants. Once the vine shrouds standing trees it can transform the entire landscape.

The vine's weight causes mature trees to shed branches and collapse. Once the native vegetation has gone, the habitat and wildlife is lost. Madeira vine is considered one of Australia's worst environmental weeds and has been listed as a Weed of National Significance.

1 Recognise & Understand the Enemy

Madeira Vine has thick fleshly roughly heart shaped leaves, showy 10cm long cream sprays of flowers and characteristic aerial tubers that form along the steam of the vine. The vine grows underground tubers up to one metre deep. Madeira vine tubers and seeds are dispersed by wind and water. Tubers remain viable for many years.

The vine can grow vigorously up to 1 metre per week forming a dense mat, covering the ground and climbing over shrubs and mature trees. The combined weight of the fleshly leaves and aerial tubers causes branches to break and trees to collapse. Along stream banks, dense vines create a resistance barrier for flood waters, and in floods cause trees to uproot and increase erosion.

Madeira vine is common in urban areas where it has been introduced as a garden plant. It typically invades riparian vegetation, the edges of rainforests, tall open forests and wet sclerophyll forests.

Control of Madeira Vine requires

A) Care. Inappropriate or careless disturbance of the vine by control work may exacerbate the problem, stimulating vigorous vine growth and accelerating tuber production.

B) Exhaustion of the tuber bank. This requires a long-term commitment to follow-up control.

Vigilance & preventation is a far easier solution

Management Priorities

Priority 1: Prevent Madeira Vine spread. Identify isolated young or mature plants and control these first.

Priority 2: Control Madeira Vine affecting important flora and fauna habitat.

Priority 3: Reduce established infestations progressively and strategically.

- Introduce biological control insects.
- Consider the topography. Give priority to isolated infestations on high ground or at the top of catchments.
- Work from the edge of the infestation toward the centre.
- Monitor for regrowth and follow-up two to three times a year.
- Encourage and nurture regrowth of native vegetation.

LEARN TO RECOGNISE YOUNG PLANTS AND ERADICATE THEM BEFORE THE VINE BECOMES ESTABLISHED

2 Eradication

It may be possible to eradicate immature and isolated Madeira Vine plants through repeated physical collection of tubers and chemical control, with monitoring 2 or 3 times a year for regrowth followed by retreatment as necessary.

The initial plants will have grown from wind-dispersed seeds or tubers, or from tubers spread by water flows and floods. Continued arrival of seeds is likely. Vigilance to monitor for new plants and eradicate them is critical.

Contain Outbreak & Reduce Spread

This is the best option where eradication is impractical because the infestation is well established and extends over a significant area. A mix of all control measures will give the best results. Some landholders will not want to use chemicals. This makes control of Madeira Vine difficult.

Physical Control Options

Physical control is only practical for small or immature infestations or as a follow-up to remove persistent tubers. Stress or physical damage to the plant results in increased production and release of aerial tubers. The root and underground tubers easily fragment facilitating growth of new plants.

Cutting and pulling vines from the canopy is not recommended. It disperses viable tubers and may be dangerous if dead and dying branches are pulled down with the vine.

Before cutting and removing vines, lay tarpaulins on the ground to collect aerial tubers. Compost tubers and vegetative material on site and frequently apply a chemical foliar spray to control regrowth.

After chemical or physical treatment, cover the ground with thick black plastic. The warmth and moisture will encourage tubers to germinate, but the lack of air and light kills the young plants. This will help control surface tubers, but not deeper tubers.