

Aluminium plant

Galeobdolon luteum
(Also known as artillery plant)

Family Lamiaceae

Identification

- Fast-growing ground-cover species.
- The oval-shaped leaves are mint-like with silvery patches on the upper surface.
- Leaf edges are serrated.
- The square purple stems can be hairy.
- Lemon-yellow tubular flowers appear from December to May.



Aluminium plant. Photo: C. Howell (DOC).



Aluminium plant in flower. Photo: J. Barkla.

Where is it found?

Aluminium plant can tolerate moderate shade and can be found growing in scrub, plantations, disturbed bush and forest margins.

Aluminium plant is commonly found in gardens within Canterbury.

Why is it a problem?

Aluminium plant has escaped from garden situations and can be found growing in the wild. A fast-growing species, aluminium plant quickly forms smothering mats of vegetation which can prevent native species from regenerating.

Aluminium plant is easily spread by fragments.

Status

Aluminium plant is listed as a Restricted Pest under the Canterbury Regional Pest Management Strategy. This implies that no one can sell, propage or distribute aluminium plant within Canterbury.



Aluminium plant invading a forest floor. Photo: C. Howell (DOC).