

Bomarea

Bomarea caldasii

Family Liliaceae



Identification

- Scrambling, multi-stemmed vine
- Long, pointed green leaves
- Trumpet shaped flowers hang in bunches
- Flowers have red outer petals and bright yellow inner petals with red spots
- Bright orange fruit
- Fleshy underground rhizomes (underground stems)



Bomarea. Photo: C. Howell (DOC)



Bomarea climbing up a tree fern. Photo: C. Howell (DOC)

Why is it a problem?

Bomarea is a fast growing plant. It climbs up to the canopy where it forms a huge mass that smothers and can eventually kill the tree(s) supporting it. It also obstructs light reaching the ground which prevents native seedlings from establishing.

Bomarea is shade tolerant. It can grow in forests where it is capable of creeping along the ground, suppressing the low growing vegetation it comes across.

Birds disperse the fruit to far away places where it may be difficult to control.

Where is it found?

Bomarea invades forest edges and disturbed forest remnants. At present, we are unsure to what extent bomarea exists in the Canterbury region.

If you have seen bomarea in the Canterbury region, please either email weeds@ecan.govt.nz or phone the Potential Pest Line on (03) 363 9380 to report your sighting.



Bomarea. Photo: C. Howell (DOC)