

Chilean glory creeper

Eccremocarpus scaber

Family Bignoniaceae



Identification

- Perennial, multi-branched, climbing vine.
- Each leaf is made up of between 3-7 leaflets.
- The leaves have prominent veins.
- The thin leaves are attached alternately along the angular stems.
- The orange-red, tubular flowers (from September to May) have rounded petals.
- Each flower is about 2.5 cm in length.
- The distinctive oval seed capsules contain many black seeds.



Chilean glory creeper. Photo: B. Keenan (Ecan).



Chilean glory creeper seed capsules. Photo: B. Keenan (Ecan).

Where is it found?

Chilean glory creeper can be found growing in open scrub, along forest edges and in riparian and waste areas. Although it prefers sunny, well-drained sites to grow in, it will tolerate partial shade conditions as well. In Canterbury, Chilean glory creeper is known to be growing on Banks Peninsula, near Oxford and in private gardens in Christchurch.

Why is it a problem?

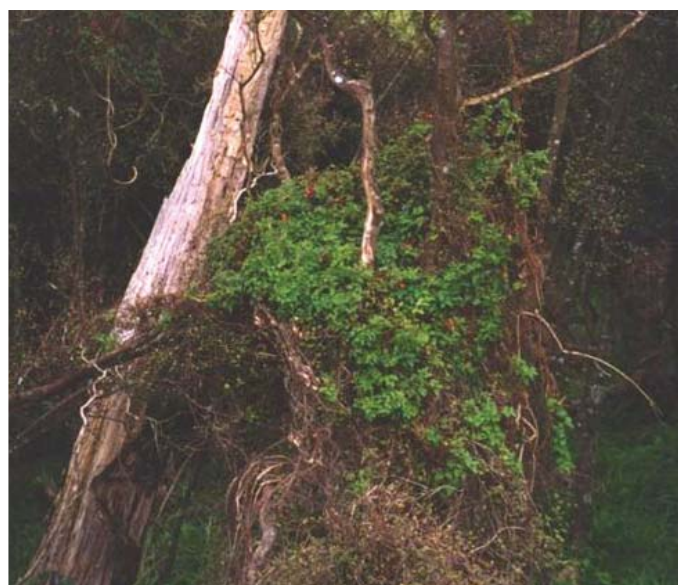
Chilean glory creeper is a rapid-growing vine that produces tendrils with small hooks to grip onto vegetation, structures etc., for support. It can smother shrubs and small plants which, in turn, can prevent the growth and regeneration of desirable species. Chilean glory creeper also produces a large amount of viable seed which is wind dispersed.

Status

Chilean glory creeper is an unwanted organism and is listed on the National Pest Plant Accord. This means that it is banned from sale, propagation and distribution within New Zealand.

Control

Individual plants can be dug out and the material disposed of appropriately. Alternatively, you can try cutting the vines near ground level and treating the cut stump with an appropriate herbicide. Use all herbicides in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and ensure no herbicide comes into contact with other plants, the soil or waterways.



Chilean glory creeper. Photo: G. La Cock (DOC).