

Montbretia

Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora



Identification

- Distinctive orange flowers from January to March
- Flowers arranged in a zig-zag up the flower stem
- Reddish-brown, 3-sided seed capsules are 5 mm long
- Forms clumps with strappy leaves of up to 1 m long
- Grows from a cluster of three or more light brown corms



Montbretia on forest edge Photo: J Sullivan



Details of corms and roots Photo: H. Braithwaite (DOC)

Where is it found?

Montbretia is often found in open or disturbed areas, shrub-lands and forest edges, particularly along water margins.

Why is it a problem?

The corms divide regularly into new clumps, forming dense areas of montbretia and displacing other lower growing vegetation. It is a particular problem on stream banks. Pieces of the corms or roots readily form new clumps.

Control

Small areas can be dug out, but make sure the corms and roots are disposed off safely.



Montbretia Photo: C Howell (DOC)