

# PEST ALERT

## Hiptage (*Hiptage benghalensis*)



### What is it?

Hiptage, a member of the Malpighiaceae family, is native to India and Malaysia and was introduced to Hawaii as an ornamental plant. It is a woody vine. The leaves are opposite and leathery. Its winged fruits (samaras) are wind dispersed.

### Why is it a pest?

This climbing vine smothers and kills vegetation on which it grows and forms dense thickets. The Division of Forestry and Wildlife of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources has designated Hiptage as one of Hawaii's "Most Invasive Horticultural Plants".

### How do we control Hiptage?

Very low-volume basal bark application of triclopyr kills younger plants with small diameter stems. Trials are currently being conducted on larger diameter stems.

For more information or to report sightings, call 246-0684