

Invasive Species Impacts



CROP DESTRUCTION

Cattail invades our lo'i and destroys Kaua'i watersheds. It is a thick invasive wetland rush that produces thousands of seeds which disperse by wind and water. Cattail forms dense mats that crowd out endangered Hawai'ian still habitat.

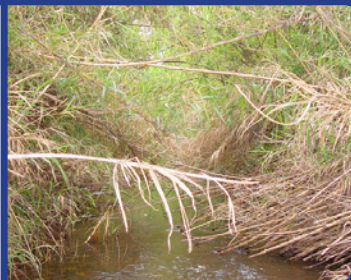


SUFFOCATION

Ivy Gourd escapes gardens quickly. It smothers vegetation and covers fences and powerlines.

FLOODS

Giant Reed forms large masses that spread across acres along streams and canals. This plant blocks water drainage and traps debris causing flooding.



EROSION

Miconia grows quickly and close together, shading out all plants in the understory. Its shallow roots can cause landslides and erosion.



BARRICADE

Long Thorn Kiawe grows in dense thickets that block beach access. This plant quickly crowds out native coastal plants. Long thorn kiawe grows 4" thorns that can pierce truck tires and boots.



FIRE

Fountain grass rapidly spreads across vast acres of land. This plant burns easily, promoting brush fires. Fountain grass seeds survive brush fires and resprout rapidly afterward.

