

# Have you seen this plant?



Barbados gooseberry (*Pereskia aculeata*)

Help keep this invasive pest off our island!  
Call KISC 808/821-1490 to report sightings.

## Barbados gooseberry (*Pereskia aculeata*)

Barbados gooseberry is a woody shrub when young and grows into a climbing, leafy cactus, with branches up to 33' long. There are clustered spines along the stem. The leaves can be green or variegated. The fragrant flowers are white or pale yellow. The smooth fruit has green leafy protuberances. It is not known to fruit or flower on Kaua'i. This pest is spread by broken stem fragments rooting as well as birds when seeds are present. *Barbados gooseberry forms large, impenetrable clumps. It is extremely thorny with spines on both the trunks and vines. This spiny pest destroys patches of forest by growing up into the canopy and smothering the trees. Let's stop it before it becomes a problem on Kaua'i.*

### What can you do?

KISC will be in your area conducting property surveys. If you believe that you have seen this plant, record its location (GPS if possible), try to collect it, and **call KISC at 808/821-1490**. Since this pest is known to only have low distribution on the island, it is important to report it. We will be happy to help with identification, survey, and possible removal of this pest. <http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/pests/barbadosgooseberry.html>