

# Have you seen this plant?



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Photos: Forest & Kim Starr

Rubber Vine (*Cryptostegia madagascariensis*)

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

## Rubber Vine (*Cryptostegia madagascariensis*)

Rubber vine is a woody vine or shrub 6-9' tall but can climb up to 30' high. Its shiny, dark green leaves are 3" long. The funnel shaped flowers are white, pink, or purple. The triangular seedpods are 4", grow in wing-like pairs, and are filled with tiny feathery seeds. **It also produces a poisonous white sap. Rubber vine is an aggressive vine that will dominate forests. This is a major pest, blanketing hillsides in Australia. It will quickly climb other plants and restrict their growth. Rubber vine's dried dust can cause irritation and possible swelling to eyes, nose, and throat. Contact with all parts of this plant can cause dermatitis. 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. [www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/pests/rubbervine.html](http://www.hawaiiinvasivespecies.org/pests/rubbervine.html)