

Miconia

Call 573-MISC



What is it?

- Miconia (*Miconia calvescens*) is a tree from South and Central America that is invading Hawai‘i.
- The large eye-shaped leaves have 3 obvious leaf veins with purple undersides.
- The small flowers last for less than a day.
- This plant grows to over 50 feet tall.
- Miconia is a State noxious weed.
- It is found in wet forests below 2,300’ elevation.

Why is it a problem in Hawai‘i?

- Miconia shades out and kills other plants trying to grow beneath it.
- If left unchecked, miconia will create a monotypic forest, destroying rain forests, pastures, and farmlands, and causing increased erosion and degradation of Maui’s healthy watersheds.
- A single plant produces millions of sand-grain sized seeds each year that remain viable for at least 10 years.

What is MISC doing?

- The Maui Invasive Species Committee is a partnership fighting to protect Maui County from invasive plants and animals that threaten our environment, economy, and quality of life.
- MISC works to prevent invasive species from becoming established in Maui.
- MISC controls invasive species on private and public property free of charge.
- MISC educates people about invasive species and how to protect Maui.

What can you do?

- Never import or plant miconia.
- If you have miconia, call MISC and give us permission to control it on your property.
- If you see miconia growing or for sale, call MISC.
- Encourage your friends not to buy this or other pest plants so nurseries will stop selling them.
- Learn more. Visit the website <http://www.hear.org/AlienSpeciesInHawaii/>

Together we can keep “Maui Nō Ka ‘Oī!”



MISC

MAUI INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

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