

WANTED

INDIAN RHODODEDRON


Melastoma candidum

CALL 286-4616



Melastoma candidum
Melastomataceae
Lani Stemmermann



<p>WHAT IS IT?</p>	<p>WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian rhododendron (<i>Melastoma candidum</i>), a state listed noxious weed, is native to Asia. • Originally brought in as an ornamental it has invaded forested areas and displaced native species. • This erect shrub or tree grows up to 20 feet. The leaves have prominent vertical veins and it has showy pink to purple flowers. • It is closely related to Miconia, which is considered the worst invasive in the Pacific Islands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian rhododendron threatens native areas by forming monotypic thickets that out-compete and displace native plants. • Each tree produces millions of seeds that are spread by birds, other mammals, and people. • Inter-island dispersal may cause new infestations. • On Kauai and the Big Island it is out of control and beyond eradication. It is an OISC priority target as it occurs in only a few areas on Oahu. We still have a chance!
<p>WHO IS  OISC ?</p>	<p>WHAT CAN YOU DO?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Oahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) is a multi-sector partnership fighting to protect Oahu from invasive plants and animals that threaten our environment, economy, and quality of life. • OISC focuses on species that are not yet established and eradication is still possible. • OISC controls and maps each population with follow-up monitoring. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stop the spread of seeds. Scrub your boots after every hike, especially when you go to other islands. • Never import or plant Indian Rhododendron. • If found, do not throw plants away! Call us for proper disposal. • Please report all sightings. Your information is important to us. CALL us at 286-4616 • For more information on invasive species go to the HEAR website www.hear.org



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