

WANTED

PAMPAS GRASS

Call 286-4616



Photo: Landcare Research, New Zealand



WHAT IS IT?

- Pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana* and *Cortaderia jubata*), is an ornamental bunchgrass that has already invaded Maui, California, Australia, and New Zealand.
- Pampas grass is a giant tussock-forming grass with white to pink flower plumes.
- It has narrow leaves with sharp, saw-toothed leaves that can cut the skin.
- It can reach up to 15 feet in height.
- It is planted ornamentally on O'ahu.
- It is drought tolerant, yet flourishes in wet areas.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

- Pampas grass grows quickly and has invaded natural areas in California, Australia, New Zealand, and Maui.
- It produces millions of wind-dispersed seeds.
- Pampas grass clumps outcompete native plants by depriving them of water and nutrients.
- Pampas grass infestations make areas more prone to brush fires, and block access to areas needed by fire fighters.
- The sharp leaves cut the skin, and infestations of pampas grass can block access to recreation areas.

WHO IS OISC?

- The O'ahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) is a multi-sector partnership fighting to protect O'ahu from invasive plants and animals that threaten our environment, economy, and quality of life.
- OISC focuses on species that are not established on this island and can still be controlled or eradicated.
- OISC partners include the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, Honolulu Board of Water Supply and other municipal, state, and federal agencies.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Allow OISC to remove your pampas grass if asked. According to Hawai'i state law, landowners are not liable for workers removing invasive species on their land.
- Report all sightings to 286-4616.
- Do not plant, import, buy, or sell pampas grass.
- If found, do not throw plants away! Call us for proper disposal.
- Learn more about pampas grass and invasive species in Hawai'i at www.hear.org.



O'AHU INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

OISC

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