

## PLANT PEST CONTROL

### LAND PLANT PESTS

#### Privet: *Ligustrum sinense* and *Ligustrum lucidum*

##### Why are we worried?

The flowers of Privet can cause severe allergic reactions in people who suffer from hay fever. In addition both of these species are toxic to humans and may also cause vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal tenderness and gastroenteritis, as well as irritating the skin, causing dermatitis.

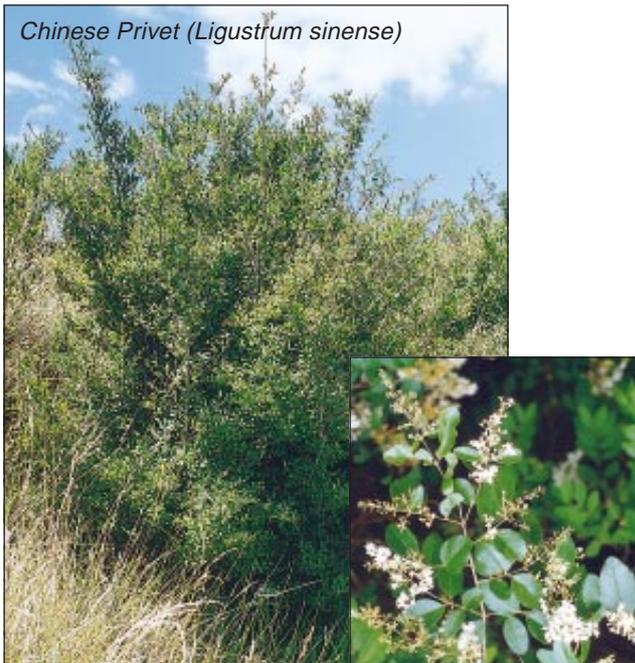
Privet can also be very invasive, particularly in native bush margins.

Privet is a Total Control Plant in the urban areas of Hawke's Bay. It cannot be propagated, sold, displayed or offered for sale. We encourage the removal of this plant from all urban sites because of the effect it has on the health of many people. If you think you have this plant pest, contact the Biosecurity Plant Pest Officers' at the Hawke's Bay Regional Council.

##### What does it look like?

- Privet is commonly called Tree Privet or Chinese Privet. Tree Privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*) is a broadleaved, large, hairless shrub growing up to ten metres in height. The leaves are egg-shaped and up to 12 cm long. Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*) is a lightly hairy, more densely branched shrub growing up to five metres in height with smaller leaves up to seven centimetres long.
- Both species produce terminal clusters of white flowers and black or blue-black berries.

Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*)



Tree Privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*)



- They have smooth bark and slender branches with leaves tapering gradually to the tip and to the stalk.

***Where is it found?***

Privet is found mainly in home gardens around Hawke's Bay where it has been planted as specimen shrubs or hedges. It can also be found along bush margins. Seed is carried by birds which encourages its spread over a wide area.

***What is the best way to control this plant?***

Large plants need to be stump cut and treated with a suitable herbicide such as Escort at 5gm of Escort plus 10mls of Pulse per 10 litres of water or Glyphosate at 50% chemical and 50% water. Smaller plants can be dug out and either burnt or taken to a commercial tip or composted.

DISCLAIMER: The choice of chemical and its application (this includes method of application and rate of application) is the sole responsibility of the user. Hawke's Bay Regional Council makes no representation that the chemical will be effective in respect of any one application or a series of applications. Hawke's Bay Regional Council shall not be liable for any damages or consequential loss arising out of the choice or application of any chemical. The information contained in this Environmental Topic does not necessarily appear on the labels of the products identified. The mention of product trade names implies neither endorsement of those products nor criticism of similar products not mentioned. Nothing in this Environment Topic shall be construed as a supply of any goods or services for the purposes of the Consumer Guarantees Act 1993.

**For further information**

Please contact the Biosecurity Plant Pest Officer at Hawke's Bay Regional Council for advice if you think you have this plant on your property, and we will work with you to eradicate it.

For further information on plant pests ask for other titles in this series and the Regional Plant Pest & Animal Pest Management Strategy.

Wairoa	06 838 8527
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