

January 2021

Wild Ginger

Wild ginger, also known as Kahili ginger, grows up to 2 metres tall with large wax-covered leaves. It forms dense, long-lived clumps that shade out the understorey and prevent growth of native seedlings and forest regeneration. It has red and yellow flowers that can produce hundreds of seeds, infesting more and more of our gardens, parks and bush.

If you notice wild ginger on your property or in your nearby parks, please follow these guidelines.

Email info@restorehb.org.nz with any questions.

Recognise

Wild (Kahili) ginger can be found almost anywhere except dry, rocky areas. Yellow ginger is very similar and should be treated the same.



Spread the Word

Talk to your neighbours and encourage them to take action too!



Remove

Hand pull small seedlings, but only if you can remove all root fragments, as they will regrow if left. For medium to large plants, cut the stem close to the ground and apply a thin film of MetGel onto the cut stump (can purchase at most garden centres or hardware stores). Follow up in three months to ensure all wild ginger plants have died.



Dispose

Dispose of the flowers and any rhizomes and roots in your rubbish bin to go to landfill, securely tied inside a plastic bag to stop it spreading to other areas. Alternatively, they can be put inside a barrel of water (lid on) and will rot down within 1-2 years. Leaves and stalks can be left on site to compost.



Further Resources

Managing Pest Plants

Health and Safety Guidance

Other Pest Plant Resources

To borrow tools and equipment, visit our tool library