



**OLD MAN'S BEARD IS
FOUND REGIONWIDE**

Control options

Cut and paste

- > Cut aerial vines at waist height
- > Trace the vine to main root, cut close to the ground and treat immediately with an appropriate herbicide

Foliage spraying

This method is suitable for smaller plants when in full leaf. Spray plants with a suitable herbicide, ensuring the risk of impacting on desirable species is minimised.

Mechanical removal

Use machinery to manually dig out vines. Once removed, cut and treat any remaining vines to ensure there is no regrowth.

All image credits: Weedbusters.



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Old man's beard is scattered across Canterbury and is most likely to be found in open forest and forest margins, riverbeds, cliffs, bush tracks and tussock land.

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More information

www.ecan.govt.nz/pests
(pages 59 to 60 of the plan)



Contact us on:
0800 324 636 or
biosecurity@ecan.govt.nz

E18/6756

Old Man's Beard

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Old Man's Beard

(Clematis vitalba)

PEST STATUS:
Sustained Control Programme

The objective of this programme is to protect areas of high environmental value by ensuring plant numbers or densities in these areas don't increase.

Why is old man's beard a pest?

Old man's beard grows quickly, forming dense masses that smother desirable plants, and prevents the establishment of native seedlings. Old man's beard produces many wind-borne seeds and is tolerant of a wide range of environmental conditions. Controlling old man's beard, which threatens nearby natural biodiversity values, is a high priority.

Who is responsible for control?

Land occupiers are responsible for controlling old man's beard on their land. Environment Canterbury will ensure land occupiers control old man's beard, which threatens nearby natural biodiversity, and work in partnership with land-owners to protect natural biodiversity values.

Land occupiers need to destroy infestations covering up to 100m² on their land, and destroy all old man's beard within 20m of an adjoining property boundary.

Environment Canterbury will implement rules where old man's beard has the potential to impact on areas of high biodiversity values. This means urban properties will not generally be inspected.

What does it look like?

Old man's beard should not be confused with any of the native clematis species. Native species are evergreen and their leaves (correctly called 'leaflets') are usually in groups of three. In contrast, old man's beard is deciduous (loses its leaves in winter) and its leaves have five leaflets. They also flower at different times of the year. Old man's beard vines have ribs or furrows, whereas native clematis vines are smooth.



WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR



Flowers

- > Small (2cm in diameter) four-petaled greenish-white sweet scented flowers.
- > Flowers in summer to early autumn.



Fruit/Seed

- > The fruit produces distinctive grey, fluffy balls of seed heads in autumn.



Leaf

- > Leaves often have a serrated edge and are covered in very fine white hairs.
- > Adult leaves (leaflets) are usually in groups of five, and seedling leaves in groups of three.
- > Leaves have a dull surface.

