

*Antigonon leptopus*  [简体中文](#) [正體中文](#)

**System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Liliopsida	Liliales	Pontederiaceae

**Common name** love-vine (English), Sandwich Island creeper (English, India), hearts on a chain (English), chain-of-love (English), confederate vine (English), mountain rose (English), Mexican creeper (English), coral vine (English), coral bells (English), rohsapoak (English, Pohnpei), kadena de amor (English), corallita (English), flores ka'dena (English, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), dilngau (English, Palau), queen's jewels (English)

**Synonym** *Corculum leptopum*, (Hook. & Arn.) Stuntz  
*Antigonon platypus*, Hook. & Arn.  
*Corculum leptopus*, (Hook. & Arn.) Stuntz  
*Antigonon cinerascens*, M.Martens & Galeotti  
*Antigonon cordatum*, M.Martens & Galeotti

## Similar species

**Summary** *Antigonon leptopus* is a smothering vine that invades disturbed areas and forest edges. It produces many seeds, which are spread by water currents and animals that consume the fruit. It has become invasive in some Pacific Islands, and is naturalised in many other parts of the Pacific.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

## Species Description

*Antigonon leptopus* is a "Robust vine growing to 10m long or more; petioles 0.6-1.5cm long; leaf blades 2.5-7.5 (10)cm long, cordate-ovate, hastate-ovate, or triangular, prominent reticulately veined, acutish to acuminate (and often apiculate), the lower ones much larger; inflorescence paniculate, the branches bearing flowers in clusters along the rachis, the rachis tip tendrillate; flowers bright pink or white, enlarging 1-4 (5)cm long; achenes conical, sharply 3-angled above, calyx 6mm long, much exceeded by the veiny, persistent, enlarged perianth." (Welsh, 1998, in PIER, 2009)

## Notes

Extensively invading disturbed areas and forest edges on the northern half of Guam; much less so on Saipan, Tinian and Yap. Although only a few cultivated plants were noted on Pohnpei, it is apparently not a recent introduction, as it was noted in cultivation by Glassman (1952, in PIER, 2009). Invasive in the Virgin Islands (Fred Kraus, communication to Aliens Listserver, in PIER, 2009). Often escapes cultivation, (PIER, 2009).

## Uses

Ornamental

## Habitat Description

Prefers dry to moist lowland areas and limestone (basic) soils (PIER, 2009).

## Reproduction

Prolific seed producer. Seeds float on water, which helps transport them to new locations. Fruits and seeds are eaten and spread by domestic and wild animals such as birds and pigs, (PIER, 2009).

## General Impacts

*Antigonon leptopus* is a smothering vine that invades disturbed areas and forest edges, (PIER, 2009).

## Management Info

Preventative measures: A [Risk Assessment of \*Antigonon leptopus\*](#) for Hawai'i and other Pacific islands was prepared by Dr. Curtis Daehler (UH Botany) with funding from the Kaulunani Urban Forestry Program and US Forest Service. The alien plant screening system is derived from Pheloung et al. (1999) with minor modifications for use in Pacific islands (Daehler et al. 2004). The result is a score of 19 and a recommendation of: "Likely to cause significant ecological or economic harm in Hawai'i and on other Pacific Islands as determined by a high WRA score, which is based on published sources describing species biology and behaviour in Hawai'i and/or other parts of the world."

Physical: Cutting alone is ineffective. Underground tubers must be removed or plants will re-sprout (PIER, 2009).

## Pathway

(Plantseed.com, no date). Internet sales/postal services

**Principal source:** [Pacific Islands Ecosystems at Risk, \(PIER\) \*Antigonon leptopus\* Hook. & Arn.,](#)

**Compiler:** IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

## Review:

**Publication date:** 2010-09-28

## ALIEN RANGE

[1] AMERICAN SAMOA	[1] ANGUILLA
[1] BAHAMAS	[1] BERMUDA
[3] CAYMAN ISLANDS	[3] COOK ISLANDS
[1] DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	[1] ECUADOR
[1] FIJI	[2] FRENCH POLYNESIA
[1] GUADELOUPE	[1] GUAM
[1] HAITI	[1] KIRIBATI
[2] MARSHALL ISLANDS	[1] MAYOTTE
[3] MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF	[1] NAURU
[2] NIUE	[5] NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
[2] PALAU	[1] PAPUA NEW GUINEA
[1] PITCAIRN	[1] REUNION
[1] SAINT BARTHELEMY	[1] SAINT MARTIN (FRENCH PART)
[1] SAMOA	[3] TONGA
[5] UNITED STATES	[1] UNITED STATES MINOR OUTLYING ISLANDS
[1] VIRGIN ISLANDS, U.S.	

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

13 references found for *Antigonon leptopus*

### Management information

Global Invasive Species Database (GISD) 2025. Species profile *Antigonon leptopus*. Available from: <https://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=203> [Accessed 31 August 2025]

Daehler, C.C.; Denslow, J.S.; Ansari, S and Huang-Chi, K., 2004. A Risk-Assessment System for Screening Out Invasive Pest Plants from Hawaii and Other Pacific Islands. Conservation Biology Volume 18 Issue 2 Page 360.

**Summary:** A study on the use of a screening system to assess proposed plant introductions to Hawaii or other Pacific Islands and to identify high-risk species used in horticulture and forestry which would greatly reduce future pest-plant problems and allow entry of most nonpests. [European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization \(EPPO\), 2006. Guidelines for the management of invasive alien plants or potentially invasive alien plants which are intended for import or have been intentionally imported. EPPO Bulletin 36 \(3\), 417-418. Guam Pest Series. Antigonon leptopus Agricultural and Natural Resources. Cooperative Extension System, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. University of Guam. Mangilao.](#)

**Summary:** Factsheet on *Antigonon leptopus*, with information on control.

[IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group \(ISSG\), 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.](#)

**Summary:** This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.

[PIER \(Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk\), 2009. Antigonon leptopus](#)

**Summary:** Ecology, synonyms, common names, distributions (Pacific as well as global), management and impact information.

Available from: [http://www.hear.org/pier/species/antigonon\\_leptopus.htm](http://www.hear.org/pier/species/antigonon_leptopus.htm) [Accessed 17 December 2009]

[Varnham, K. 2006. Non-native species in UK Overseas Territories: a review. JNCC Report 372. Peterborough: United Kingdom.](#)

**Summary:** This database compiles information on alien species from British Overseas Territories.

Available from: <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/page-3660> [Accessed 10 November 2009]

## General information

Barthelat, F. 2005. Note sur les espèces exotiques envahissantes ♦ Mayotte. Direction de l'Agriculture et de la Forêt. 30p

**Summary:** Tableau synthétique des plantes exotiques de Mayotte classées en fonction de leur niveau d'envahissement.

[Conservatoire Botanique National De Mascarin \(BOULLET V. coord.\) 2007. - Antigonon leptopus Index de la flore vasculaire de la Réunion \(Trachophytes\) : statuts, menaces et protections. - Version 2007.1](#)

**Summary:** Base de données sur la flore de La Réunion. De nombreuses informations très utiles.

Available from: <http://flore.cbnm.org/index2.php?page=taxon&num=f4be00279ee2e0a53eafdaa94a151e2c> [Accessed 28 March 2009]

[ITIS \(Integrated Taxonomic Information System\), 2004. Online Database Antigonon leptopus](#)

**Summary:** An online database that provides taxonomic information, common names, synonyms and geographical jurisdiction of a species. In addition links are provided to retrieve biological records and collection information from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) Data Portal and bioscience articles from BioOne journals.

Available from: [http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search\\_topic=TSN&search\\_value=20994](http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=20994) [Accessed December 31 2004]

[Kueffer, C. & Lavergne, C. 2004. Case studies on the status of invasive woody plant species in the Western Indian Ocean. Réunion. FAO. 36 p](#)

**Summary:** Available from: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/webview/media?mediaId=6842&langId=2> [Accessed 26 March 2008]

[Meyer, J.-Y. 2000. Invasive plants in the Pacific Islands. In: The Invasive Species in the Pacific: A Technical Review and Draft Regional Strategy. Sherley, G. \(tech. ed\). Published in June 2000 by the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme \(SPREP\).](#)

**Summary:** Resource that includes the distribution of invasive species throughout the Pacific Islands.

[Plantseed.com. Found at: www.plantseed.com](#)

**Summary:** Online seed sales.

[Vos, P. 2004. Case Studies on the Status of Invasive Woody Plant Species in the Western Indian Ocean. 2. The Comoros Archipelago \(Union of the Comoros and Mayotte\). FAO.](#)

**Summary:** Article de synthèse sur les espèces ligneuses envahissantes dans l'archipel des Comores et ♦ Mayotte et les stratégies de gestion développées localement.

Available from: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/webview/media?mediaId=6556&langId=2> [Accessed 20 March 2008]