Pittosporum viridiflorum **System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Rosales	Pittosporaceae

Common name cape cheesewood (English), cape pittosporum (English), spoor (English, St. Helena)

Synonym

Similar species

Summary *Pittosporum viridiflorum* is a shrub/tree that has become naturalised in Hawai'i and Saint Helena. Originally cultivated in Europe as early as the 17th Century, the Dutch took the species to Saint Helena where it has now naturalised as an early coloniser in the currently regenerating shrubland. In Hawaii, *P. viridiflorum* is typically found at altitudes less than 1000m at forest edges and abandoned pasture.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Species Description
Pittosporum viridiflorum is desribed by Wagner *et al* (1999; as seen in PIER, 2006) as a small tree 3-6 m tall with its young parts and inflorescences sparsely puberulent; branches glabrous. It has leathery leaves, 6-15 cm long, 2.2-4 cm wide, glabrous, with margins minutely revolute; the apex bluntly acuminate to rounded; the base attenuate and the petioles 0.6-1.5 cm long. *P. viridiflorum's* flowers are perfect, numerous in terminal, branched, have corymbose inflorescences with peduncles 0-8 mm long, its pedicels slender and 5-7 mm long. The sepals are elliptic and around 1.5 mm long, margins scarious. The petals are yellowish green, 5-6 mm long, with margins slightly revolute and erose. Its capsules are depressed-subglobose, slightly compressed and 4-5 mm long, with the valves having thin exocarp and the surface minutely rugulose. The seeds occur in 4-6, are reddish black, subreniform, are somewhat compressed, and are around 3.5-4 mm long.

Uses
Used as an ornamental in Hawaii (Starr *et al*, 2003). Its stem and bark have also been used medicinally (Matshinyalo & Reynolds, 2002, as seen in Starr *et al*, 2003).

Habitat Description
In Hawaii, *Pittosporum viridiflorum* is cultivated, but has also naturalised sparingly at around 1000m altitude (PIER, 2006). In its native range, *P. viridiflorum* tolerates a wide range of elevations and grows in tall forests, in shrub of forest margins and on stream banks (Matshinyalo & Reynolds, 2002; as seen in Starr *et al*, 2003).

Management Info
Preventative measures: A Risk Assessment of *Pittosporum viridiflorum* 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 3 and a recommendation of: \"the plant requires further evaluation.\" \n
Physical: Seedlings of *P. viridiflorum* could be pulled by hand. Small trees could also be dug out. Cutting without herbicide treatment may result in re-growth (Starr *et al*, 2003)
Chemical: Cut stump, and basal bark methods employing herbicides are likely effective means of control for *P. viridiflorum* (Starr *et al*, 2003).

Pathway
Pittosporum viridiflorum is spread long distances by humans who use the species in landscaping (Starr *et al*, 2003)

Principal source:

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:

Pubblication date: 2005-01-24

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[5] UNITED STATES

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Managment information
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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.
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