

*Rubus rosifolius*  [简体中文](#) [正體中文](#)

**System:** Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Magnoliopsida	Rosales	Rosaceae

**Common name** akalakala (English, Hawai'i), akala (English, Hawai'i), Mauritius raspberry (English), frambueso de Africa (Spanish), framboisier (French), ola'a (English, Hawaii), forest bramble (English), native raspberry (English, Australia), native bramble (English, Australia), roseleaf raspberry (English), thimbleberry (English)

**Synonym** *Rubus rosaefolius* , Smith  
*Rubus rosifolius* , Smith var. *coronarius* Sims  
*Rubus commersonii* , Poir.  
*Rubus coronarius*  
*Rubus eustephanos* , var. *coronarius*  
*Rubus rosifolius* , var. *rosifolius*  
*Rubus rosifolius* , var. *commersonii*

### Similar species

**Summary** *Rubus rosifolius* is a prickly shrub that produces edible red berries. It is valued for a number of culinary and medicinal purposes. This species has become invasive in Hawai'i and French Polynesia, where it is capable of intruding into the understory of rainforests. Prickly stems and an ability to form dense thickets make *R. rosifolius* undesirable in many areas.



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

### Species Description

*Rubus rosifolius* is a pinnate leaved species. Erect to trailing shrub up to 2m or more in height. Stems are sparsely covered with prickles 1-4mm long. Leaves are alternate and pinnately compound, 7-18cm long, with 3-7 leaflets. Inflorescence mostly of solitary, terminal or axillary flowers. Calyx of 5 lanceolate sepals 1.4 - 2.5cm long, tomentose. Corolla of 5 white, obovate petals 1 - 2cm long. Stamens many, free. Ovaries many. Fruit a subglobose, red, multiple fruit 2 - 3.5cm long, easily detaching from the receptacle. The red fruits are somewhat conical in shape, longer than they are wide.

There are two varieties of *R. rosifolius* that differ only in the number of petals. *Rubus rosifolius* var. *commersonii* has 9-13 petals, while *Rubus rosifolius* var. *rosifolius* has five (Bean, 2001).

### Notes

*Rubus rosifolius* is susceptible to strawberry mild yellow edge-associated *potexvirus* it is transmitted by a vector; an insect; *Chaetosiphon fragaraefolii* belonging to family Aphididae. It is transmitted in a non-persistent manner. The virus possibly requires, for vector transmission, a helper virus (strawberry mild yellow edge *luteovirus*); transmitted by mechanical inoculation and by grafting (Brunt *et al.*, 1996).

### Lifecycle Stages

Seeds have germination success of about 90% after 12 weeks (Greening Australia NSW, 2003).



# GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Rubus rosifolius*

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## Uses

Fruit is edible and sweet-tasting. Can be made into jams, pies and preserves. Leaves can be made into tea, which can be helpful for painful menstruation, childbirth, flu, and morning sickness. Aboriginal people in Australia used a decoction of the leaves as a traditional treatment for diarrhea (Notman, 2000). The fruit is a mild laxative if eaten in large quantities.

Can be used for regeneration of disturbed sites within its native range in Australia (Greening Australia NSW, 2003). Seen as a good native species to use for the replacement of invasive blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*) in Australia.

Used as an ornamental plant (NCCPG, 2001).

## Habitat Description

Occurs naturally in forest margins, clearings and gullies. Invades understory of moist forests. Grows to over 2000m elevation in Tahiti, and to 1730m in Hawai'i (PIER, 2002). Prefers light soil that is moist and nutrient-rich. In Australia where it is native it is found in rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest from Tasmania to Qld

## Reproduction

Seeds spread by birds and rodents that have ingested fruit (PIER, 2002). Can also spread *via* suckers that develop from arching canes (MPAS, 2002).

## General Impacts

Threatens many native plants on the Hawai'ian Islands through overcrowding and competition (US EPA, 2002). Is able to form dense thickets when adequate sunlight is available. Can climb using hooks on the stems and prickles on the leaves (BRAIN, 2002).

## Management Info

There is no specific management information for *Rubus rosifolius*, but techniques used for the control of blackberry *Rubus fruticosus agg* which is a related species, may be applicable. These are outlined below.

**Preventative measures:** Maintenance of soil fertility and pasture may reduce infestations.

**Physical:** Tractor and rotary slasher, hand cutting.

**Chemical:** there are a range of herbicides that can be used for the control of blackberry, including those that are glyphosate-based, such as Roundup®. These are usually applied by spraying, using a knapsack or mistblower for smaller infestations, or handgun and hose for larger ones (EBOP, 2002).

**Biological:** Goats (*Capra hircus*) are able to control infestations through grazing. Care must be taken with this approach however, as goats are a known invasive species as well.

## Pathway

In some countries it is grown for its flowers (NCCPG, 2001).

**Principal source:** [PIER \(Pacific Island Ecosystems At Risk\), 2003](#). *Rubus rosifolius*

**Compiler:** IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group

Updates with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

**Review:** Robyn Barker, Honorary Research Associate Plant Biodiversity Centre Dept for Environment & Heritage. Australia.

**Publication date:** 2010-10-04

## ALIEN RANGE

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[7] FRENCH POLYNESIA  
 [1] MARTINIQUE  
 [2] NEW CALEDONIA  
 [2] SAINT HELENA  
 [1] THAILAND

[1] GUADELOUPE  
 [1] MAYOTTE  
 [1] REUNION  
 [1] SWAZILAND  
 [1] UNITED STATES

**Red List assessed species 3: CR = 2; EN = 1;**

[Otus capnodes](#) CR  
[Pteris adscensionis](#) CR

[Pritchardia glabrata](#) EN

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

28 references found for *Rubus rosifolius*

### Management information

[Environment \(B.O.P\) Bay of Plenty.](#)

**Summary:** An excellent source of information on the control of blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.). Methods outlined may be applicable for control of invasive populations of *Rubus rosifolius*. Outlines methods and equipment for mechanical control, pasture & stock management, and herbicide use.

Found at: <http://www.envbop.govt.nz/weeds/weed26.asp> [Accessed 02 December 2002].

[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 \(Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk\), 2003. Rubus rosifolius](#)

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

Available from: [http://www.hear.org/pier/species/rubus\\_rosifolius.htm](http://www.hear.org/pier/species/rubus_rosifolius.htm) [Accessed 3 June 2003]

[PIER \(Pacific Island Ecosystems at Risk\) 2005. Rubus rosifolius](#)

**Summary:** Ecology, synonyms, common names, distributions (Pacific as well as global), management and impact information. Available from: [http://www.hear.org/pier/species/rubus\\_rosifolius.htm](http://www.hear.org/pier/species/rubus_rosifolius.htm) [Accessed 9 November 2005]

Swaziland s Alien Plants Database., Undated. *Rubus rosifolius*

**Summary:** A database of Swaziland s alien plant species.

[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

Baret, S., Rouget, M., Richardson, D. M., Laverigne, C., Egoh, B., Dupont, J., & Strasberg, D. 2006. Current distribution and potential extent of the most invasive alien plant species on La Réunion (Indian Ocean, Mascarene islands). *Austral Ecology*, 31, 747-758.

**Summary:** L objectif de ce papier est d identifier les zones prioritaires en matière de gestion des invasions biologiques La Réunion en modélisant la distribution actuelle et potentielle d une sélection de plantes parmi les plus envahissantes.

[Bean, Tony. 2001. Queensland Raspberries. Australian Plants Online. Copyright Farrer Centre, Charles Sturt University.](#)

**Summary:** Good information on the *Rubus* species native to Queensland, Australia.

Available from: <http://farrer.riv.csu.edu.au/ASGAP/APOL22/jun01-1.html> [Accessed 02 December 2002].

[Binggeli, P. 2003. The human dimensions of invasive woody plants. Woody plant Ecology.](#)

**Summary:** One piece of distribution information.

Available from: <http://members.lycos.co.uk/WoodyPlantEcology/docs/gisp-iwp.rtf> [Accessed 10 June, 2003].

[BRAIN, 2002. Brisbane Rainforest Action & Information Network.](#)

**Summary:** A small amount of general information .

Available from: <http://www.brisrain.webcentral.com.au/vines/vines13.html> [Accessed 13 June, 2003].

[Brunt, A.A., Crabtree, K., Dallwitz, M.J., Gibbs, A.J., Watson, L. and Zurcher, E.J. \(eds.\) \(1996 onwards\). Plant Viruses Online: Descriptions and Lists from the VIDE Database. Version: 20th August 1996.](#)

**Summary:** Has information on a virus that *R. rosifolius* is susceptible to. .

Available from: <http://biology.anu.edu.au/Groups/MES/vide/> [Accessed 28 November 2002].

[Conservatoire Botanique National De Mascarin \(BOULLET V. coord.\) 2007. - Rubus rosifolius 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=5cd7edbe7a1a668fdc63c138002cc43a> [Accessed 9 April 2008]

[Flora of Thailand, 2003.](#)

**Summary:** Has two synonyms.

Available from: <http://www.forest.go.th/Botany/Flora/species%20list/volume2/Rosaceae.htm> [Accessed 13 June, 2003].

Florence J., Chevillotte H., Ollier C. & Meyer J.-Y. 2007. *Rubus rosifolius* Base de données botaniques Nadeaud de l'Herbier de la Polynésie française (PAP).

**Summary:** Available from: [http://www.herbier-tahiti.pf/Selection\\_Taxonomie.php?id\\_tax=3225](http://www.herbier-tahiti.pf/Selection_Taxonomie.php?id_tax=3225) [Accessed 9 April 2008]  
Fournet, J. 2002. Flore illustrée des phanogames de Guadaloupe et de Martinique. CIRAD-Gondwana éditions.

Gargominy, O., Bouchet, P., Pascal, M., Jaffre, T. and Tourneau, J. C. 1996. *Conséquences des introductions d'espèces animales et végétales sur la biodiversité en Nouvelle-Calédonie. Rev. Ecol. (Terre Vie) 51: 375-401.*

**Summary:** Consequences to the biodiversity of New Caledonia of the introduction of plant and animal species. Greening Australia NSW, 2003.

**Summary:** Small amount of information on how to grow *R. rosifolius*.

[ITIS \(Integrated Taxonomic Information System\), 2005. Online Database \*Rubus rosifolius\*](#)

**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.cbif.gc.ca/pls/itisca/taxastep?king=every&p\\_action=containing&taxa=Rubus+rosifolius&p\\_format=&p\\_ifx=pligt&p\\_lang=](http://www.cbif.gc.ca/pls/itisca/taxastep?king=every&p_action=containing&taxa=Rubus+rosifolius&p_format=&p_ifx=pligt&p_lang=)  
[Accessed March 2005]

Macdonald, I.A.W., Thébaud, C., Strahm, W.A., & Strasberg, D. 1991. Effects on alien plant invasions on native vegetation remnants on La Reunion (Mascarene Islands, Indian Ocean). *Environmental Conservation*, 18, 51-61.

**Summary:** Cet article est le premier à proposer une hiérarchisation des plantes les plus envahissantes de La Réunion. 33 plantes ont été ainsi classées en utilisant une méthode développée en Afrique du Sud. Les bases d'une stratégie de lutte contre les plantes exotiques envahissantes sont également formulées.

Mackee, H.S. 1994. Catalogue des plantes introduites et cultivées en Nouvelle-Calédonie, 2nd edn. MNHN, Paris.

**Summary:** Cet ouvrage liste 1412 taxons (espèces, sous espèces et variétés) introduits en Nouvelle-Calédonie. L'auteur précise dans la majorité des cas si l'espèce est cultivée ou naturalisée.

Meyer, Jean-Yves & Loope, Lloyd & Sheppard, A. & Munzinger, Jérôme & Jaffré, Tanguy. (2006). Les plantes envahissantes et potentiellement envahissantes dans l'archipel néo-calédonien : première évaluation et recommandations de gestion.

[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.

Meyer, J.-Y. 2004. Threat of invasive alien plants to native flora and forest vegetation of eastern Polynesia. *Pacific Science*, 58, 357-375

**Summary:** Dans cet article, la menace croissante des plantes exotiques envahissantes est discutée et les espèces les plus envahissantes sont décrites. Des hypothèses sur l'invasibilité des îles sont présentées à la lumière des observations et des données récoltées.

[MPSA \(Middle Path Awareness Sanctuary\), 2002. Wild Raspberry - \*Rubus rosifolius\*, L. Rosaceae.](#)

**Summary:** Has information on homeopathic uses for *R. rosifolius* Available from: <http://middlepath.com.au/plant/raspberry.html> [Accessed 28 November 2002]

[NCCPG, 2001. National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens.](#)

**Summary:** Minimal information on a cultivated variety of *R. rosifolius*.

Available from: <http://www.manntaylor.com/plantweek9c.html> [Accessed 13 June, 2003]

[Notman, A. 2000. Roseleaf Raspberry. Rumbalara Environmental Education Centre.](#)

**Summary:** Distribution information, uses, and history of the plant.

Available from: [http://www.rumbalara-e.schools.nsw.edu.au/bushtucker/Rubus\\_rosifolius.htm](http://www.rumbalara-e.schools.nsw.edu.au/bushtucker/Rubus_rosifolius.htm) [Accessed 13 June, 2003].

[US EPA, 2002. Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Determinations of Prudency and Designations of Critical Habitat for Plant Species From the Islands of Maui and Kahoolawe, Hawaii.](#)

**Summary:** Information on Hawaiian species that are endangered by *R. rosifolius*.

Available from: <http://www.epa.gov/fedrgstr/EPA-SPECIES/2000/December/Day-18/e31078.htm> [Accessed 13 June, 2003].

Whistler, W.A. 1995. *Wayside Plants of the Islands: a guide to the lowland flora of the Pacific Islands.* Isle Botanica, Hawaii.

**Summary:** Has useful descriptions and very good photos of a wide range of plant species found in the Pacific Islands.