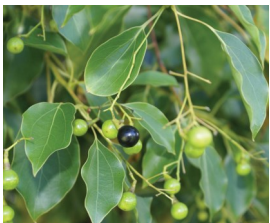


## Munibung Hill / Kona-konaba

# Invasive Species Awareness Guide



Clockwise from top left: Mile-a-Minute, Madeira Vine, Cotoneaster, Whisky grass<sup>1</sup>, Camphor Laurel<sup>2</sup> and Pampas grass. Photos: Supplied

## Be an influence for good

WHEN IT COMES to invasive species, prevention is much easier, more effective and cheaper than cure.

Stopping more invasive species from entering Munibung Hill and preventing spreading weeds that have already established a foothold is critically important.

An educated visitor to Munibung Hill is an ambassador for good visitor etiquette, an advocate who helps build awareness for the control of invasive species.

## Border Control

THE MAJORITY of Australia’s weeds have been deliberately introduced and most of these have ‘escaped’ from gardens, doing terrible damage to our natural local environment. It is a form of colonisation that continues today.

We have recorded 300 plant species living at Munibung Hill. While only fifty of these—16 percent— are invasive species they have colonised over 80 percent of the landscape, choking out native species and reducing biodiversity.

If your property borders Munibung Hill or if you live in nearby streets, please don’t toss lawn clippings or garden prunings over the back fence, deal with them on-site — Munibung Hill must not be considered a dumping ground.

What might seem like an innocent act or one of convenience, can have long lasting negative consequences when released into a bushland setting. Not only weeds, this also applies for roaming domestic cats that predate on wildlife such as bandicoots, microbats, lizards, birds, frogs, possums and more — that can lead to local extinctions.

## Respect for nature

MUNIBUNG HILL is an important nature reserve. Stay on the tracks. There are threatened species and endangered ecological communities living at Munibung Hill - an important pollinator corridor. Admire the views, appreciate the heritage. **Don’t be responsible for introducing more invasive species to Munibung Hill.**

## Where to find Munibung Hill

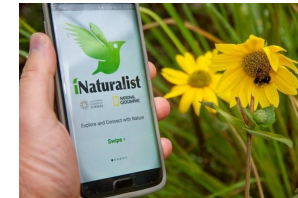


15km, 20 min east of Newcastle

150km, 2 hours north of Sydney

250km, 3 hours south of Port Macquarie

If travelling by public transport, check timetables with NSW Trains (closest station is Cardiff) and Newcastle Buses (Bus routes: 29 and 44)



RESOURCES for this Guide include: [Hunter Regional Weeds](#), [Invasive Species Council](#), [iNaturalist](#), [Lake Macquarie Landcare](#) and [Weed-Wise NSW](#).

Native plant or weed: Pick the difference, [Volume 1](#) & [Volume 2](#), by Ann Loughran

MHCS also has a map and walking guide. More details at the website.

Munibung Hill Conservation Society

W: <http://www.munibunghill.com>

E: [munibunghcs@gmail.com](mailto:munibunghcs@gmail.com)

First edition: December 2023

<sup>1</sup>Whisky grass, not to be confused with native Kangaroo Grass,

<sup>2</sup>Camphor Laurel not to be confused with Kurrajong



# Invasive Species Awareness Guide



Scan the QR code to get the  
**Invasive Species Awareness  
Guide** on your mobile device.

## 1. Crofton Weed *Ageratina adenophora*



Aggressive invader, 1-2 m high. Infestations can rapidly increase in size, reducing ecological values.

## 2. Asparagus fern *Protoasparagus-aetheopicus*



Forms dense infestations that smother native groundcover and understorey plants preventing their germination and establishment.

## 3. Giant Coolatai *Hyparrhenia hirta*



Tussock forming grass can dominate and greatly reduce biodiversity. Plants are long lived and seed is very mobile.

## 4. Morning Glory *Ipomoea indica*



Rapid growing vine can kill any plant by completely smothering it. Can grow up to 30 m high. Widespread across Munibung Hill.

## 5. Lantana *Lantana camara*



Dense shrub 2-4 m high, invades eucalypt forests, can scramble up trees, clog creeks, outcompete native species, fuel bush-fires, restrict access to bushland and waterways.

## 6. Broad-leaved Privet *Ligustrum lucidum*



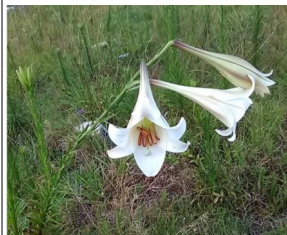
Not to be confused with native Cheese Tree or Lillipilly. Threatens biodiversity, including endangered ecological communities. Spread by fruit eating birds.

## 7. Small-leaved Privet *Ligustrum sinense*



Not to be confused with native Grey Myrtle or Breynia, which has alternate leaves while Small-leaved Privet are opposite. Up to 5m high. Reduces food and habitat for native animals.

## 8. Formosa (Tiger) Lilly *Lilium formosanum*



Up to 2 m tall, colonises landscape, grows from bulb and seed. Don't be fooled by the 'pretty' flowers. This is a weed, not a friend of the bush. NOT to be shared on FB or social media.

## 9. Mickey Mouse Bush *Ochna serrulata*



Not to be confused with native Blueberry Ash. Ochna is a hardy plant that can outcompete native plants, reduce food and habitat for native animals, restrict movement of people.

## 10. African Olive *Olea europea ssp cuspidata*



Up to 12m. high. Invades bushland and produces dense shade that suppresses native understorey plants, can permanently change plant diversity in bushland.

## 11. Cassia *Senna pendula*



Not to be confused with native Breynia (Coffee Bush) which has alternate leaves while Senna (leaflets) are opposite. Cassia is a sprawling shrub 2-4 m tall, up to 5m supported by other plants.

## 12. Wild Tobacco Bush *Solanum mauritianum*



Small tree to 4 m high. Outcompetes native species, hosts fruit fly, can produce 100,000-200,000 seeds per year. Birds eat fruit and spread the seed.

## Cats *Felis catus*



For native animals there's no difference between a feral or roaming domestic cat. None of us can escape the devastating impacts they are having on Australia's wildlife. Cats have already driven 27 native animals to extinction since colonisation.

**Keep cats indoors or contained outdoors at all times.**

CATAstrphic effects of free-roaming domestic cats.

## Foxes *Vulpes*



Foxes are nocturnal, territorial and highly efficient hunters and may kill more prey than they can consume. *This is known as surplus killing behaviour.* Foxes are a pest animal because they threaten biodiversity by hunting and killing native wildlife.

MORE THAN 50 invasive plant species have been identified at Munibung Hill. Visit the [website gallery](#) where an asterisk (\*) denotes an introduced plant. Learn to identify these plants and pass on your knowledge to family and friends. Be a weed keeper-outer-er — be an influence for good housekeeping.