

Chilean guava

Myrtaceae - Ugni molinae



What does it look like?

Chilean guava is an aromatic bushy shrub, 1-2 m high. Shoots often reddish when young, later deep brown, densely clothed in short hairs at first.

Its leaves are small ovate shining green with reddish margins. Small pale pink flowers hang down singly or in small clusters. Flowering takes place between November and April. The globular fruit are obviously stalked and reach 14 mm diameter, becoming dark purplish red when ripe, the flesh is white and sweet.

Why is it a problem?

Tolerates wet soils with high acidity, tolerant of cold temps and frosts, re-sprouts after damage (incl fire).

Thrives in peat soils and has become a problem weed in Chatam Island wetlands.

Control methods

Chemical Control:

- Cut plant at ground level and apply herbicide to stump and any remaining plant material.
- CAUTION: When using any herbicide or pesticide, PLEASE READ THE LABEL THOROUGHLY to ensure that all instructions and safety requirements are followed.
- Plants with seed must be buried deeply, burnt, or disposed of at a refuse transfer station.
- Follow up at six-monthly intervals to complete eradication.

[Request info](https://eservices.es.govt.nz/online-services/new/BiosecurityRFS/step/1?Subject=PlantPests&Species=207)

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Management programme

- Organisms of interest