

# WEED OF THE WEEK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY KAUA'I COMMUNITY RADIO & KAUA'I INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

WEEK EIGHTEEN, OCTOBER 22, 2008

## PLUME POPPY

*Bocconia frutescens*



Forest & Kim Starr

**Description:** Shrub, can be 20 foot tree. Gray-green leaves are lobed & about 2 feet long & hairy underneath. They are congested at the tips of the branches. Has greenish-purple flowers that hang in clusters. Seeds are black with a red base.

**Native Range:** Central & South America

**Distribution:** Not yet known on Kaua'i! Serious pest on Big Island & Maui, establishing large infestations.

## INVASIVE INFO

- On the Hawai'i **State Noxious Weed** list, making it illegal to sell &/or transport
- On KISC's **Early Detection** list as one of the weeds to immediately remove if found on Kaua'i
- Introduced as an ornamental & **jumped the fence!**
- **Aggressively takes over dry forest areas** that home to wiliwili & other native species
- Each plant produces **thousands of seeds** that are **easily dispersed** by birds
- **Controlling this weed is a challenge!** Plume poppy usually **resprouts** after control requiring a lot of persistence!
- Forms **dense stands that decrease biodiversity** & make it difficult for native species to compete
- **Can invade from sea level to 5800 feet elevation!**

If you see Plume Poppy on Kaua'i,

# CALL 643-PEST!

**Prevent the Spread.**

**Let's get it before it starts!**