

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!