

WEED OF THE WEEK

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

WEEK NINE, AUGUST 20, 2008

LONG THORN KIAWE

Prosopis juliflora



Description: Can grow as a sprawling shrub or tree with 3 inch thorns (different & more invasive than common kiawe)

Native Range: Africa

Distribution: Removed from Maha'ulepu, removal work continues between Pakala Point & Mana

Weed Risk Assessment Score: 19-VERY HIGH RISK

INVASIVE INFO

- **Thorns** are so long that they are able to pierce entirely through slippers, boots, & car/truck tires
- Thorns also have **poison** on the ends, often causing bruises upon puncture to the skin
- Each tree produces thousands of seeds every year
- **Crowds out native coastal plants, removing habitat for nesting birds**
- Forms dense thickets, **restricting beach access**
- On the state of **Hawai'i's NOXIOUS WEED LIST**
- Difficult to remove and work around
- One of Kaua'i Invasive Species Committee's **priority target species**, in partnership with Hawai'i Department of Agriculture & Pacific Missile Range Facility

**KEEP BEACH ACCESS OPEN...
PLANT NATIVES &
REMOVE DA WEEDS!**