

**WANTED**

# MICONIA

Call 286-4616



Miconia naturalizing in 'Ahuimanu



Landslide in Tahiti caused by dense miconia forest



Aerial view of miconia

## WHAT IS IT?

- Miconia (*Miconia calvescens*), a Hawai'i State noxious weed, is a fast-growing invasive tree native to Mexico, Central and South America.
- Miconia reaches heights of up to 50 feet, with large, velvety green oval leaves that have 3 obvious parallel leaf veins and dark purple undersides.
- Miconia prefers wet areas and is able to grow in dense forest with low light levels.
- Miconia is included on the list of Hawai'i's Most Invasive Horticultural Plants compiled by the Hawai'i State Alien Species Coordinator.

## WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

- Miconia forms thick stands, shades out native plants, and completely takes over moist and wet forests.
- Miconia grows quickly and produces millions of seeds that are spread by wind, birds, contaminated dirt, muddy shoes, clothing, equipment, or vehicles.
- Miconia acts as an "umbrella" over a watershed and its shallow root systems promote erosion, potentially reducing the amount of rainwater that seeps into O'ahu's aquifers.

## WHO IS OISC?

- The O'ahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) is a multi-sector partnership protecting O'ahu from invasive plants and animals that threaten our environment, economy, and quality of life.
- OISC focuses on species that are not widely established on this island and can still be controlled or eradicated.
- OISC partners include the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, Honolulu Board of Water Supply and

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Allow the OISC field crew on your property to survey for miconia if asked. According to Hawai'i state law, landowners are not liable for workers surveying for or removing invasive species.
- Report all sightings to 286-4616.
- Do not plant, import, buy, or sell miconia.
- If found, do not throw plants away! Call OISC for proper disposal.
- Stop the spread of seeds, wash boots after each hike.
- Learn more at [www.hear.org](http://www.hear.org).



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