WANTED

HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY
CALL 808-266-7994

Rubus discolor patch found off Mauʻumae trail
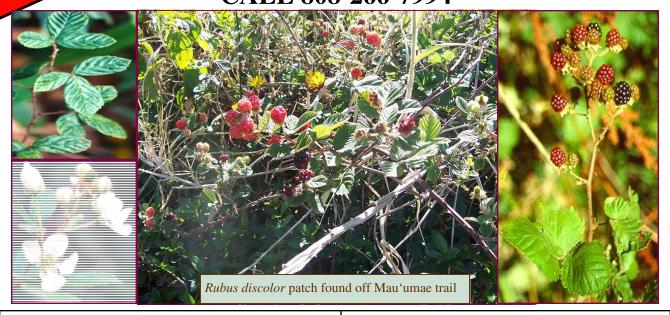
WHAT IS IT?
- Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus discolor*) is a thorny, sprawling shrub native to western Europe.
- Characteristics of Himalayan blackberry are pink or white flowers, thorny stems, and leaves with 3 leaflets. The round fruit is black when ripe.
- It thrives in disturbed areas, open fields, and near streams.
- All non-native *Rubus* species are included on the list of Hawaiʻi's Most Invasive Horticultural Plants compiled by the Hawaiʻi State Alien Species Coordinator.

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?
- Himalayan blackberry forms impenetrable thickets that exclude native plant species and make access to natural areas painfully difficult.
- Thickets of Himalayan blackberry produce 7,000-13,000 seeds per square meter, which can remain dormant in the soil for 3 or more years.
- Himalayan blackberry is known to be explosively flammable, reduces soil moisture, and may threaten the two native Hawaiian raspberry species by out-competing and hybridizing with them.

WHO IS OISC?
- The Oʻahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC) is a multi-sector partnership protecting Oʻahu 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 Hawaiʻi Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, Honolulu Board of Water Supply and other municipal, state and federal agencies.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
- Allow the OISC field crew on your property to remove Himalayan blackberry if asked. According to Hawaiʻi state law, landowners are not liable for workers surveying for or removing invasive species.
- Report all sightings to 266-7994.
- Do not plant, import, buy, or sell Himalayan blackberry.
- If found, do not throw plants away! Call OISC for proper disposal.

OISC
OʻAHU INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

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