

STROMANTHE TONCKAT

WANTED



WHAT IS IT?

- *Stromanthe tonckat* is a fast-growing, invasive herb native to Tropical America.
- This species was planted in Lyon Arboretum in 1981 and began to show evidence of spreading.
- Evaluated as a High Risk Species by the Hawaii Pacific Weed Risk Assessment (WRA Score = 7)
- **This plant produces stems with several leafy branches.**
- **Its berries are somewhat pear-shaped, starting out red in color and turning black at maturity.**

WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

- Thrives in tropical climates and can occupy a broad range of elevations.
- Shade tolerant and does well in a variety of habitats, which could facilitate its invasion into undisturbed native ecosystems.
- Flowers can self-pollinate to produce seeds in the absence of pollinators.
- Seeds are dispersed long distances by birds.
- Can reproduce vegetatively from underground stems.

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 other municipal, state and federal agencies.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Volunteer with OISC on monthly volunteer trips at Lyon Arboretum to help remove this species from the garden and prevent its spread!
- If found outside of Lyon Arboretum, contact OISC and provide a photo and detailed information about its location. OISC will remove the plant and dispose of it properly.
- Plant native or non-invasive plants in your yard! Not sure if a plant is invasive? Visit www.PlantPono.org or www.hear.org for more info.



743 Ulukahiki Street
Kailua, HI 96734

Phone: (808) 266-7994 Fax: (808) 266-7995

E-mail: oisc@hawaii.edu Website: www.oahuiscc.org