

Bindweed, convolvulus *Calystegia sepium*, Convolvulaceae



Photos: A. Stanton

- vigorous perennial climber
- smothers other plants
- grows 2-4 m high
- heart or arrow shaped leaves
- non-woody pink stems twine anti-clockwise
- far creeping, white rhizomes which can grow new plants
- large pink trumpet shaped flowers with white stripes, borne singly
- prolific seed production, 2-4 black seeds per capsule
- originally from southern Europe
- established in NZ in early 20th Century
- note very similar NZ native with darker pink flowers and same smothering habit, *Calystegia sepium* subsp. *roseata*



Control: Bindweed can be controlled by shading - by planting species which form a dense canopy or by laying weedmat. Repeated frequent weeding will also eventually starve any remaining roots. If spraying, repeated applications will be required.

Vines should be pulled out with the root if possible (note that the roots break easily), otherwise broken off at the ground. When weeding, please remove the vine from around young native plants very carefully to avoid damaging them.