

# WANTED

# TIBOUCHINA HERBACEA

ALSO KNOWN AS CANE TIBOUCHINA

CALL 808-266-7994



## WHAT IS IT?

- All 350 species in the genus *Tibouchina* have been declared noxious weeds by the State of Hawai'i. It is illegal to sell or transport noxious weeds.
- Native to the tropical regions of Central and South America.
- Cane tibouchina usually has fuzzy leaves with prominent veins and showy purple flowers with yellow stamens.
- Introduced as an ornamental, it now is a forest weed escaping from yards into natural areas.

## WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

- Threatens native areas by forming dense thickets that outcompete and displace native plants.
- Cane Tibouchina has been detected at Poamoho in the Ko'olau Mountains and is the only known population on O'ahu.
- Cane Tibouchina is included on the list of Hawai'i's Most Invasive Horticultural Plants compiled by the Hawai'i State Alien Species Coordinator.
- *Tibouchina herbacea* belongs to the family Melastomataceae, which includes *Miconia calvescens* and many other highly invasive plants.

## WHO IS OISC?

- OISC is a multi-sector partnership protecting O'ahu from invasive pests that threaten our environment, economy, and quality of life.
- We focus on species that are not widely established on this island and can still be controlled or eradicated.
- Our partners include the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, Honolulu Board of Water Supply and many others.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Allow the OISC field crew on your property to survey or remove *Tibouchina* if asked. According to state law, landowners are not liable for workers surveying for or removing invasive species.
- Do not plant, import, buy, or sell *Tibouchina* plants.
- Please do not pull plants, but instead report all sightings to 266-7994.
- ALWAYS clean gear and footwear before and after hiking.
- Learn more at [www.oahuisc.org](http://www.oahuisc.org)

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