## **Invasive Species of Kona**

## Did you know?

Due to Hawaii's isolation, it allowed for the plant and animal kingdom to evolve into one of the world's most unique ecosystems and most species only found in Hawaii. But the invasive species now cover almost 90% of land below 1200' and 50% of land above 1500'.

## **Recent Concerns:**

Invasive species encroach into native forests, ranches, and cropland. This can destroy restoration and conversation efforts. These various species thrive in the Kona environment, so these species grow rapidly decreasing the amount of time the land owners have to eradicate the plants.

## What Can YOU do to Help?

- Try to limit the use of chemical herbicides
  - Mow weeds instead of spraying
  - Constant Maintenance is required
- Cover the degraded soil with grass and mulch
- Contact the Kona Soil and Water Conservation District for more tips on how you can help.

