

# Alien

# Watch

# Deadly Rubber Vine

*Cryptostegia grandiflora*

Noxious species, already a problem in several areas of the country. Colourful and hardy, thus often used as an ornamental.



June 2020

No 1

- \* Self-supporting, woody, perennial vine with trailing whip-like branches
- \* Exudes a milky latex when damaged
- \* Leaves opposite, drooping, broadly elliptic, glossy dark green
- \* Flowers showy, funnel-shaped with five petals, pink or white to pale purple
- Seed pods distinctive, horn-like, growing in rigid opposite pairs on short stalk
- Seeds with a tuft of silky hairs, dispersed by wind
- **A highly dangerous invader that grows up into trees and rapidly smothers them, pulling them down and killing them,**
- **Poisonous to stock**
- **Spreading quickly in Namibia**
- **ERADICATION OF THIS SPECIES SHOULD BE A PRIORITY – DIG IT OUT!**



Source: Coleen Mannheimer



Source: sciencephoto.com



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