

HIMALAYAN BLACKBERRY

IDENTIFICATION

A robust, sprawling plant with long canes and stiff, sharp thorns. Leaves are large, oblong, toothed, and grow in sets of 3 or 5. Flowers are pinkish and clustered. Grows edible berries in summer.

This weed can overtake large areas and displace native vegetation and form impenetrable thickets. It spreads through roots and seeds. New plants can grow where cane tips touch the ground. Grows well in disturbed areas and a variety of soil conditions. Intolerant of shade.

CONTROL

Manual: Young plants can be pulled or dug up, removing roots. This is easiest in moist soils. Removing root crowns once vines are knocked down is effective. Manual control may be time consuming and is easiest for small infestations.

Mechanical: Use heavy equipment to masticate, mow, or till plants. Mowing several times a year may deplete root reserves. May need to be repeated over several growing seasons.

Chemical: Follow all label directions! Herbicide applications are effective for large infestations, especially in combination with mowing. Apply when canes are actively growing, before the first frost. Monitor treated areas for new growth and remove as needed.

FURTHER INFO

For further reading on control methods for blackberry, see:

[Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board](#)
[Pacific Northwest Pest Management Handbooks](#)
[WISC - Washington Invasive Species Council](#)

