



2. Buddleia

Buddleia davidii

What is Buddleia?

Buddleia is a flowering plant which quickly takes over areas and competes with native plants. Also known as butterfly bush, it grows to about 3 metres tall.

It is an invasive weed which is causing problems in New Zealand.

Why is buddleia a problem for New Zealand?



This pest plant grows very well in a variety of places, such as: rivers, streams, forests and bare land. It invades areas where there are native plants, threatening their survival.

Buddleia can intensify flooding when it grows in and near rivers, changing water flow.



How do I know it's buddleia?

During summer, buddleia has purple/ white flowers growing in clusters. Its flowers are orange inside.

The leaves are long, hairy and thin (6-20 x 3-8 cm). Stems are also hairy.

How does it spread?

Buddleia spreads by wind, water and through soil. Because the seed spreads in all these different ways, buddleia can quickly take over new habitats.

Buddleia comes from China.



For more detailed information about buddleia and how to control its spread see:

weedbusters.org.nz

