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## COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER – Mahi tahi!!

### Rangers' Report - June - October 2022

#### Weed of the Month

(the following is from the Weed Action Natural Habitat Restoration Trust website (<http://weedaction.org.nz/weed-of-the-month/>))

#### November 2022 - Climbing Asparagus (*Asparagus scandens*)

Scrambling & climbing plant. Long green, thin, wiry stems (2-4 m long) that are much branched at the top. Fine, fern-like foliage, small, delicate leaves. Tuberos roots. Tiny white flowers (Sept-Dec), followed in Oct- February by round green berries that ripen to red-orange (berries 8mm in diameter). Can also grow in trees as an epiphyte.

It is a very shade-tolerant, smothering vine. This means it can invade even healthy forests with an intact canopy. Once established it can expand rapidly, smothering the forest floor and understorey up to 4m high, and preventing the growth of established species and preventing all regeneration of native seedlings. It can also ring bark and kill soft-barked shrubs and trees. It has long-lived tubers that resprout easily, requiring follow up control, and well dispersed seeds.

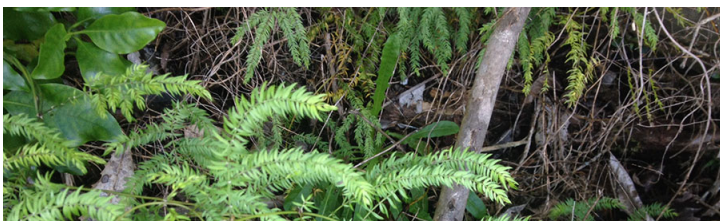


#### How do I control it?

- Dig or cut out crowns; a sharp vegetable knife or gib saw can be useful for this. Collect the hard woody rhizome and dispose of at a refuse transfer station, burn or bury. All other plant material can be left on site to rot down.
- Weed wipe (300ml glyphosate/1L water, no penetrant), total coverage not required.
- Spray in spring-early summer, lightly, with (200ml glyphosate/10L water). Do not add penetrant when spraying against tree trunks. Avoid runoff, total coverage not required.  
Spray in autumn-winter (in frost-free areas only on healthy growth), with an increased rate of (300ml glyphosate/ 10L water). Infestations of plants taller than 60cm can be cut at a height of 30-60cm then this lower vegetation can be sprayed. The remaining cut material will die without the need for treatment. Spot spray any missed plants within 30-60 days.

Maintain rolling front of control, work in from the edge of infestation. Follow up at least 6-monthly for eradication. For further information and advice click the link: [Weed Action advice on Climbing Asparagus](#)

**CAUTION:** when using any herbicide or pesticide PLEASE READ THE LABEL THOROUGHLY to ensure that all instructions and safety requirements are followed.



## Coming up in November/December:

**Rodent tracking tunnels...** In the next two months, a rodent monitor will be done to keep an eye on their numbers.

**GFP nest check...** The next check is due in late November. Cathy will report back on what has happened with the 12 chicks. Fingers crossed for a positive result!

**Nursery shade house mahi...** The team is working on a plan for the next phases in the nursery project and a planting strategy. Updates will come in the following months.

**Volunteer inductions...** We have been inducting volunteers on trap/toxin lines but there are still more that need covering. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer on the hill with us, contact Jenny Lawrence - Email: [volunteers@breamheadtrust.nz](mailto:volunteers@breamheadtrust.nz); Mobile: 021 164 9992

Big thanks to all the other groups we work with. We hope you all enjoy the coming summer holidays.  
Mauri ora - Keep well!

Tom Flynn-Plummer (Head Ranger)  
Mobile: 0278768833  
Email: [bhctrangers@gmail.com](mailto:bhctrangers@gmail.com)





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## Appendix

### Monthly predator control results: June

2022

Pest/ Predator	BHSR					Cactus Outdoor New Zealand LTR/Buffer	WWF	2022		
	Total # caught this month BHSR.	# caught this month previous year in BHSR.	# of total rats caught this month Norway or Ship rats?	Total # caught inside res. th month (i.e. n LTR/buffer).	# caught s. this previous on LTR/buffer).			# caught 2021 YTD.	Total # caught this month LTR.	Total # caught this month BUFFER.
Rat	16	9	14 S Nor	1 of 1	2 of 9	94	47	5	2	
Possum	1	0	-	1 of 1	0	9	8	0	0	
Stoat	1	1	-	1 of 1	1 of 1	11	8	0	0	
Weasel	0	1	-	0	0 of 1	8	17	0	0	
Ferret	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Feral cat	0	0	-	0	0	1	0	0	0	
Mouse	25	4	-	9 of 25	0 of 4	90	45	16	0	
Hedgehog	0	0	-	0	0	8	13	0	0	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>13 of 43</b>	<b>3 of 15</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>2</b>	

#### Analysis:

- Steady high numbers of rats and mice being caught following through from the past two months which aligns with the usual winter spike in rodent activity
- Noticing **LTR** has ramped up catches compared to the beginning of the year. This could be due to increasing the check frequency from fortnightly to weekly since April

**KEY:** **BHSR** – Bream Head/Te Whara Scenic Reserve.  
**LTR** – Load the Road (All Ocean Beach Road).  
**BUFFER** – Private land b/t BHSR and Ocean Beach Road.

### Monthly predator control results: July 2022

Pest/ Predator	BHSR						LTR & Buffer		
	Total # caught this month BHSR.	# caught this month previous year in BHSR.	# of total rats caught this month Norway or Ship rats?	Total # caught inside res. this month (i.e. not on LTR/buffer).	Total # caught inside res. this month previous yr (i.e. not on LTR/buffer).	# caught 2022 YTD	# caught 2021 YTD.	Total # caught this month LTR.	Total # caught this month BUFFER.
Rat	2	12	2 Norway	0 of 2	9 of 12	96	59	2	0
Possum	0	2	-	0	1 of 2	9	10	0	0
Stoat	1	0	-	0 of 1	0	11	8	1	0
Weasel	0	2	-	0	0 of 2	8	18	0	0
Ferret	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feral cat	1	0	-	0 of 1	0	2	0	1	0

Mouse	17	20	-	0 of 17	3 of 20	107	65	17	0
Hedgehog	0	1	-	0	0 of 1	8	14	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0 of 21</b>	<b>14 of 37</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0</b>

**Analysis:**

- Low numbers of rats caught reserve wide, mice stay steady.
- LTR dominates in catches this month. Great to see this line serving its purpose.

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## Monthly predator control results: August 2022

Pest/ Predator	BHSR							LTR & Buffer	
	Total # caught this month BHSR.	# caught this month previous year in BHSR.	# of total rats caught this month Norway or Ship rats?	Total # caught inside res. this month (i.e. not on LTR/buffer).	Total # caught inside res. this month previous yr (i.e. not on LTR/buffer).	# caught 2022 YTD	# caught 2021 YTD.	Total # caught this month LTR.	Total # caught this month BUFFER.
Rat	2	0	1 Ship/1 Norway	0 of 2	0	98	59	1	1
Possum	2	1	-	2 of 2	0 of 1	11	11	0	0
Stoat	1	1	-	1 of 1	1 of 1	12	9	0	0
Weasel	0	2	-	0	0 of 1	8	20	0	0
Ferret	0	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	0
Feral cat	0	0	-	0	0	2	0	0	0
Mouse	7	10	-	0 of 7	1 of 10	114	75	7	0
Hedgehog	0	0	-	0	0	8	14	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>3 of 12</b>	<b>2 of 13</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>

**Analysis:**

- Total catches decreased compared to the past month.
- Still catching the odd mustelid
- Two possums caught this month that were spotted on cameras in the reserve before hand, so it was awesome to chase finally chase them down

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