Cobaea scandens

Common Name(s):

cathedral bells

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Terrestrial. Potential to become a major weed in tall and undisturbed forests, natural open areas, scrub, forest remnants, hedgerows, roadsides, riverbanks, gardens, shelterbelts and undisturbed native forests (ARC, PestFacts)

Features:

Evergreen, climbing vine to 6 m. Stems angled, branch tips hooklike. Leaves alternate, usually in 3 pairs of leaflets (incl small basal pair). Leaflets oval, 4-12 x 2-5 cm, dark green above, whitish below; with branched, purplish when young, woody-at-base tendrils. Mid-rib has twining tendrils. Flowers bell shaped, 6-7 cm long, green and smelly when young, becoming deep purple, Dec-May. Seed capsule 55-85 mm long, with 10-15 mm winged seeds.

Flowering:

Fruiting:

(August) September - May

September-May

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3722



Caption: Lower Hutt, Hutt River Trail near Belmont. Mar 2011. **Photographer:** Jeremy Rolfe



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