

# Bilberry Bilberry

*Solanum mauritianum*

## Impacts

- It is spread through human activity: through donkeys eating it and spreading it in their droppings
- Myna birds and rats eat the many seeds and so it is spread this way as well
- Is a major invasive weed on agriculture land at Longwood
- Impacts all edges of Pastureland and Forest land and also on the edge of the Peaks
- It out-competes native plants



Photo: Andrew Darlow



## Actions

- Cutting it is not efficient as it resprouts quickly and the roots still grow
- Small ones can be pulled from the root
- Larger ones can be cut and then sprayed with a herbicide, which is more effective
- Each time a plant is damaged in any way, it becomes more resistant, therefore finding a successful method to kill it is hard to find. Different methods are being tried and tested to help find an effective solution

Regrowth of Bilberry after cutting. Photo: Andrew Darlow