

San Miguel County Noxious Weed of the Month: Chinese clematis (priority)



How to identify Chinese clematis

- Vines have single yellow flowers with 4 small petals about 1 inch long
- Seed heads are fluffy white and look like “pom- pom” clusters
- Leaves are opposite on branch
- Is a perennial (grows back year after year)
- Peak bud production is July through October
- Seeds viable about 8 years
- Seeds are spread through wind, animals, and contaminated hay
- Biological controls are available

Chinese clematis causes these effects in the environment

- Chokes out and kills trees and shrubs
- The juice of crushed leaves and stems causes blisters
- Out-competes native vegetation by smothering it
- Dominates groundcover leading to more erosion
- Leads to declines in native plants, and in native animals
- Decreases the amount of tree cover

San Miguel County Vegetation Control & Management urges all County residents to manage any Chinese clematis infestations with elimination in mind.

Weed control is a community effort! Please do your part.

For more information about Chinese clematis and other noxious weeds in San Miguel County please contact Julie Kolb, Manager, Vegetation Control & Management at juliek@sanmiguelcountyco.gov