

## Hierarchy of tradescantia control for community groups

**Background:** The chemical control of Tradescantia requires three treatments a year for multiple years, which means it is expensive. In Wellington's hilly environment, tradescantia is unlikely to be completely controlled with chemical techniques as small fragments will remain. These fragments will lead to reinvasion at some point once management is stopped.

The following hierarchy of sites to chemically control tradescantia has been developed to help with community groups with decision making.

1. Isolated patches in primary forest with no tradescantia above or below the patch. An important caveat is that there isn't any tītiki present or nearby. Tītiki is extremely sensitive to the herbicide used to control tradescantia, which can easily kill large mature trees.
2. Top of the catchment with "long" tradescantia-free areas of primary forest below, assuming reinvasion from road reserve or private properties is unlikely.
3. Restoration planting sites. The following methodology has been developed
  - a. One pre-planting spray of the restoration site at least 30 days before planting. The best situation would be there is no tradescantia above the site, however, as that is unlikely, a buffer above the planting site will be sprayed to slow down the reinfestation
  - b. A year after planting, there needs to be manual release around plants (e.g. CVNZ). Then another application of herbicide.  
Assumption: A year after planting, the plants will be higher than the tradescantia level, so they do not need further spraying to thrive.
4. WCC prefers not to manage tradescantia by chemical control in the following situations
  - a. Areas where removal will result in landslips or risk of this – e.g. no or very thin soil remains
  - b. Infestations along streams (high likelihood of reinvasion from upstream)
  - c. Steep sites with tradescantia above and below, with a short "run" out to accessible areas where manual control can manage tradescantia so native regeneration occurs.
5. There is some leniency with the above hierarchy for tradescantia control:
  - a. If the community group can take over the control, once the area has been sprayed once.
  - b. If the community group can do the majority of the site, but there are small areas too steep for the volunteers.