

# Fairy crassula

## *Crassula multicava*

### Family

Crassulaceae (stonecrop)

### Also known as

Pitted crassula

### Where is it originally from?

South Africa

### What does it look like?

Creeping succulent herb with fleshy leaves (4 x 4 cm) covered with small, pitted dots. Clusters of small, pale pink flowers on upright stems appear in spring, and small plantlets develop in these clusters after flowering.

### Why is it weedy?

Spreads easily, particularly on rocky sites, and crowds out other species. Is partially shade-tolerant.

### How does it spread?

Plantlets on flowerheads drop off and develop into new plants, but seeds have not yet been observed in NZ.

### What damage does it do?

Competes with native species, forming dense mats.

### Which habitats is it likely to invade?

Grows well on open sites, particularly rocky areas, and can tolerate some shade.

### What can I do to get rid of it?

1. Handweed (all year round): dispose of all plant material at a refuse transfer station.
2. Spray: glyphosate (200ml/10L + penetrant).



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Photo: Carolyn Lewis



Photo: Trevor James



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