

Merremia tuberosa

Wood rose

Merremia tuberosa (L.) Rendle

Family: Convolvulaceae

Description: Long, climbing vine. Leaves broad, palmately lobed, margins entire. Flowers usually in clusters, funnel shaped, yellow, fully bloom in sunlight, close under cloudy conditions and in the dark. Capsule brown, splits to produce the “wood rose.” Seeds 1–4, black to dark brown. [A related white-flowered vine, *M. aegyptia* (L.) Urb., hairy merremia, perhaps indigenous, occurs in dry sites of all the inhabited island except Ni‘ihau.] Genus named in honor of Blasius Merrem, German professor ca. 1800; *tuberosa*, funnel-shaped flower^(5, 70); *aegyptia*, of Egypt⁽⁶⁾.

Distribution: Origin obscure, now pantropical. A weed of lowland forests in Hawai‘i, on all four largest islands. First collected on Hawai‘i in 1932⁽⁷⁰⁾.

Environmental impact: Smothers trees and smaller plants in disturbed lowland forests.



Management: Probably susceptible to hormone type herbicides, as this family tends to be.