Del Monte Forest Non-native Invasive Plants: How Many Have You Seen?



Del Monte Forest Conservancy (DMFC) works closely with the Open Space Advisory Committee to identify and control populations of invasive plants in and around

the Forest while working to educate residents.

One of the most visible invasive plants in the forest is Pampas grass (Cortaderia jubata).

It is tempting to include its beautiful feathery plumes in yards and gardens. But Pampas grass spreads very quickly and is quite difficult to remove once it is established.



Spanish Bay Pampas Grass Eradication Project (L-R) Eddy and Eleanor Fagin, Bruce Cowan, Unknown, Judy Cowan, Beatrice Howitt - 1976



Maybe you have driven along Del Monte Forest roadways and admired the yellow flowers on French Broom (Genista

monspessulana). It is pretty but very invasive, and requires a constant battle to keep it under control. When thickets of genista dry in late summer, they spread long-lived seeds in abundance and become an extreme fire hazard.



Other invasive plants you see here in the forest are Blackwood Acacia (Acacia melanoxylon), Bull thistle (Cirsium vulgare), Cape Ivy

(Delairea odorata), English Ivy (Hedera helix), Gorse (Ulex europeaus), Myoporum (Myoporum

laetum), Poison Hemlock (Conium maculatum), Prickly Moses acacia and the Sydney acacia. Another pesky visitor is the panic veldt

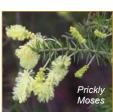




grass (Ehrharta erecta), a perennial from South Africa that disperses thousands of seeds year around. It thrives in many habitats, from open

sandy slopes and dunes to dense shade under redwoods and Monterey cypress. Panic veldt grass grows unnoticed until it has displaced native

ground cover, tree seedlings, and shrubs. It is a real pest in home gardens.





English and Cape Ivy

The Del Monte Forest Conservancy employs a certified forester. Together with volunteer naturalists, the Pebble Beach Company, the



Monterey Peninsula Country Club, and others, these plants are identified and their growth controlled.





DMFC is dedicated to conserving the coastal Del Monte Forest. With your help by being selective in your landscape planning and keeping a watchful eye for invasive plants in your garden, we will continue to succeed.

