

Pest Plants

of the Wellington Region

Perennial nettle

Urtica dioica and sub spp

How do I identify perennial nettle?

Upright herb that can grow up to 1.5 metres tall

Leaves: Green, **heart-shaped and toothed**, covered in hairs which may sting if touched

Flowers: Small, green and hang in **tassels**, later turning into small seeds

Stems: Woody stems covered in hairs which may sting if touched

Roots: Creeping **underground stems**

Where found: In older gardens, pasture, wasteland, forest margins, stream and riverbanks

What's the problem?

- Perennial nettle is generally unpalatable to livestock and therefore reduces available grazing area
- Forms dense areas of vegetation which shade and crowd out all other vegetation
- It is spread many ways including water, wind, contaminated soil and feed, machinery, animals and people

What do I do?

- If you suspect you have perennial nettle or have seen it somewhere in the Wellington region, please contact us and we'll come and have a look
- If it is perennial nettle, we will control it for free and record the sites location for future work

Fact:

Nettles are used to treat and aid a range of medical illnesses and deficiencies

