



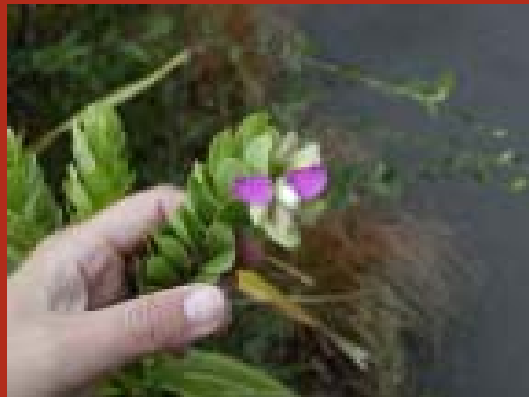
## Sweet pea shrub

*Polygala myrtifolia*

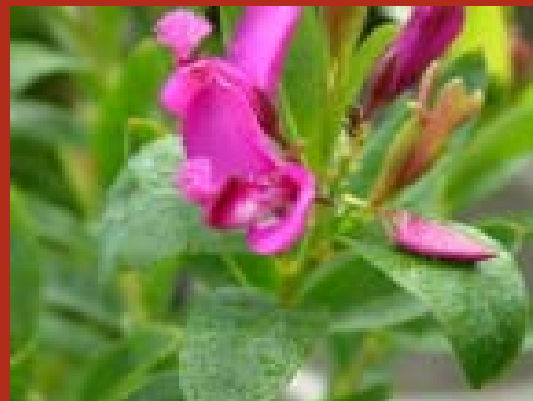
Sweet pea shrub is a menace!

We need your help to get rid of this invasive plant completely from the Wellington region.

Sweet pea shrub has been found in your neighbourhood. If you suspect it may be on your property, or know of other sites, contact us and we will control it free of charge.



Sweet pea shrub, note the white keel (middle petal).



Cultivated variety, note the purple keel.

## Impact

Sweet pea shrub can damage our environment. If left uncontrolled it will smother and replace other plant species.

Sweet pea shrub is currently limited throughout the Wellington region, so with your help we have an opportunity to eliminate it completely by acting now, before it spreads further.

## Description

Sweet pea shrub is an attractive bush from South Africa that can grow to 2m high. Seedlings generally occur close to parent plants.

The alternate light green leaves are broadly oval and grow to 2.5cm with rounded or blunt tips. The pea-like flowers grow in clusters at the end of each branch. The petals are pinky-purple, and the middle petal (keel) is white with a purple blush ending in a tuft of white hairs. The outside of the flower is streaked with green.

Cultivated varieties have slightly larger, less open flowers and the keel of the flower is predominantly purple.

## Contact us

If you know of any sites of this pest plant please contact us so we can destroy it.



For more information contact us

Greater Wellington  
34 Chapel Street  
P O Box 41  
Masterton  
T 06 378 2484  
F 06 378 2146  
W [www.gw.govt.nz](http://www.gw.govt.nz)

Greater Wellington  
1056 Fergusson Drive  
P O Box 40847  
Upper Hutt  
T 04 526 4133  
F 04 526 4171

Greater Wellington  
142 Wakefield Street  
P O Box 11646  
Wellington  
T 04 384 5708  
F 04 385 6960

Greater Wellington is the  
promotional name for the  
Wellington Regional Council

Publication date June 2005

GW/BIO-G-05/71