



WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT MONTBRETIA...

Montbretia (or CrocosmiaXcrocosmiflora) = **invasive & non native perennial plant.**



Why is Montbretia a problem?

It chokes off all other flowering plants including native wildflowers and grasses thus reducing food sources for pollinators even further than they already are.



How does Montbretia spread?

- through underground corms and rhizome fragments (bulbs)
- and fruit capsules after flowering

Each plant can produce up to 14 new corms annually. These corms break off from the parent plant and begin to produce their own root network. This increases the size and density of an infestation. The corms, corm fragments and rhizomes can be spread unintentionally as a result of ground disturbance, dumping of garden waste and by attaching to machinery.



When and how to remove it:

Flowering takes place between July and September. The most effective time to remove it is just before full flowering in summer.

The best method is to **remove the whole plant**, including underground corms. However, cutting off the flowering heads already helps to reduce the plants vigour.

What to do with the removed plants?

Dispose of the corms and rest of the plant in a way that does not result in further spread. **Please do not put the corms or heads with fruit capsules on the compost or throw them into nature.** Corms (bulbs) can only go to landfill!

References

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

<https://www.nonnativespecies.org/>

<https://species.biodiversityireland.ie/profile.php?taxonId=47514>

