Glycine wightii

Tinaroo glycine

Glycine wightii (Wight and Arnott) Verdc.

Family: Fabaceae

Description: Viney herb, covered with rusty hairs. Leaves trifoliate, leaflets rhomboid, up to 6 inches long by 5 inches wide. Small pea-type flowers, white, in upright clusters, blooms in winter, orange when dry. Pods straight or curved, in upright clusters, 1.5 inches long by 0.2 inches wide, rusty hairy, grooved between seeds. Seeds 4–7 per pod, dark reddish brown. Name from the Greek *glykys*, sweet, for the edible seed of species such as the soybean, *Glycine max* (L.) Merr.[70].

Distribution: From tropical America. Introduced as a forage. Naturalized in lower-elevation, drier mesic pastures, roadsides, and other disturbed areas on Kauaʻi, Oʻahu, Maui, Kahoʻolawe, and Hawaiʻi. Commonly growing on pasture fences and in former pasture lands at Puʻuanahulu, Kona, and Kaʻū on Hawaiʻi and at Ulupalakua, Maui. A common roadside weed between Līhuʻe and Kalaheo on Kauaʻi. First collected in the state in 1975[70].

Environmental impact: Not a problem in pastures, as tinaroo glycine is relished by cattle and other livestock. Unchecked, it could smother smaller plants and shrubs and enshroud fences. In fact, it has been used to control lantana. Conceivably, tinaroo glycine could become a problem in exclosures where livestock are kept out.

Management: Pat Bily (TNC) reported good control with foliar application of 2% solution of triclopyr amine in water with a surfactant. Tolerant of tebuthiuron in apple-of-Sodom control trials and following large-scale aerial treatment of pastures in South Point, Hawaiʻi.