

Grevillea robusta

Silk oak, silver oak

Grevillea robusta A. Cunn. ex R. Br.

Family: Proteaceae

Description: Much taller tree than *G. banksii*, to 70 ft. Young branches hairy, rusty. Leaves simple, alternate, smooth, deeply and narrowly lobed, to 1 ft long; lower surface of leaves rusty turning to whitish, margins curling under. Flowers in clusters, 7 inches long, orange to golden brown, peak blooming May–June. Fruits are dry, dark capsules (follicles), with a long hair-like appendage at the end^(32, 70). *Robusta*, robust⁽⁵⁾.

Distribution: Native to Australia. Over two million trees have been planted throughout Hawai'i. Drought resistant but does well in moist areas, 60–80 inches rainfall. Occurs on all major islands. Introduced around 1880^(32, 70).

Environmental impact: Widely planted and a prolific seeder, it is a weed of drier mesic pastures and forests. Pollen may trigger hay fever.

Management: Has value as timber. Sensitive to triclopyr ester (2.5% product in diesel oil) applied to frill cuts⁽⁶⁶⁾. HAVO staff reported control with triclopyr



ester at 5% product in diesel oil applied to basal bark (Zimmer, HAVO). Susceptible to cut-surface and continuous frill applications of picloram and glyphosate and tolerant of 2,4-D and dicamba⁽⁴⁵⁾. Applications of glyphosate and triclopyr to drilled holes in unreplicated demonstrations were very effective. Goats will control silver oak (An Peischel).