GUAM PEST SERIES

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Cooperative Extension System, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Guam, UOG Station, Mangilao, GU 96923

Flowers

Underground tubers

Antigonon leptopus growing over trees along the roadside.

Common Names: Mexican creeper, Mountain rose, Confederate vine, Chain of love, Hearts on chain.
Scientific Name: *Antigonon leptopus* H. and A.

(Polygonaceae)

Chamorro Name: Kadena de Amor

This aggressive spreading vine is a native of Mexico. This potential weed has been introduced to many tropical and sub-tropical regions as an ornamental. The heart shaped leaves are 3 to 5 inches long and are distributed alternately on long vining stems. Bright white or pink flowers are borne on inflorescences which end in branching tendrils. Flowering occurs through most of the year. In addition to seeds, *A. leptopus* also produces small edible underground tubers.

The vine quickly spreads and overgrows shrubs and trees eventually smothering them. It has become weedy along roadsides and in vacant lots.

Control:

1. Cutting vines only removes above ground vegetation. New vines will sprout from seeds and from underground tubers. The tubers must be removed to prevent further growth.

2. No herbicides are registered for this weed.

Consult with an Agricultural Extension Agent for more information. You can contact an agent by calling 734-2575, 734-2579, 734-2518 or 734-4753.