

Berberis wilsonae

FAMILY

Berberidaceae

AUTHORITY

Berberis wilsonae Hemsl.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Waste places near cultivation

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Deciduous shrub to about 2 m high. leaves are sessile and up to 3 x 1 cm, 3-partite spines held just below the leaves. The leaves can be green to red in exposed plants. pale yellow flowers are held in dense racemes of 10-20. Fruit starts translucent but ripens to deep red 5-9 mm diameter with grey bloom.

SIMILAR TAXA

Similar in general appearance to *B. thunbergii*, but can be distinguished by the 3-partite spines. Also similar to *B. vulgaris* but lacks the obvious leaf venation and serrulate leaf margins.

FLOWERING

December, January, February

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

June, July, August

YEAR NATURALISED

1983

ORIGIN

S.W. China, upper Burma

ETYMOLOGY

berberis: From the Arabic name berberys

Reproduction

Suckering and seed.

Seed

Prolific

Dispersal

Birds

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/berberis-wilsonae/>

