# Abutilon indicum

## COMMON NAMES
Indian abutilon, Indian mallow

## BIOSTATUS
Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS
Not applicable

## CATEGORY
Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS
Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION
An erect, many-branched shrub to about 2 m tall. Leaves with stipules, simple, serrate, broadly ovate, with acuminate tips; velvety on both sides. Corolla yellow.

## FLOWER COLOURS
Yellow

## SIMILAR TAXA
Some other Abutilon species

## DISTRIBUTION
Occasionally grown in NZ gardens; first seedlings seen near planted shrubs in 2017 near Whanganui

## HABITAT
Seedlings appear near planted specimens

## GENUS
Abutilon

## FAMILY
Malvaceae

## AUTHORITY
Abutilon indicum (Link) Sweet

## ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

## FRUITING
A dry ridged capsule

## YEAR NATURALISED
2017

## ORIGIN
India and East Asia to Indonesia

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION
Ornamental; perhaps for fibre and medicinal uses.

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Seed

Seedlings in site where adult shrub had been removed ; garden near Fordell, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 04/03/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.

Planted shrub in garden (with canna lilies); near Fordell, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 21/01/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## ETYMOLOGY

**abutilon**: From the Arabic word for a mallow-like plant.

## MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/abutilon-indicum/

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026