Cordyline rubra

BIOSTATUS
Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS
Not applicable

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Trees & Shrubs - Monocotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS
Red/Pink, White

GENUS
Cordyline

FAMILY
Asparagaceae

AUTHORITY
Cordyline rubra Otto & A.Dietr.

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

ORIGIN
Australia - eastern Australia (Queensland)

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION
Probably horticultural - however it arrived here rather early in New Zealands recorded history. It is possibly partly indigenous.

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Long-lived shrub to small tree. By vegetative extension, root suckering and from seed. Fleshy bird dispersed fruits. Bird dispersed seed. Plants often establish through careless disposal of garden waste

ETYMOLOGY
cordyline: From the Greek kordyle ‘club’
rubra: Red

NVS CODE
CORRUB

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cordyline-rubra/

PDF DATE
25 May 2026

Inflorescence. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

Cordyline rubra. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.