

Corymbia ficifolia

COMMON NAME

scarlet-flowered gum

SYNONYMS

Eucalyptus ficifolia

FAMILY

Myrtaceae

AUTHORITY

Corymbia ficifolia (F.Muell.) K.D.Hill & L.A.S.Johnson

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

CORFIC

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Tree to 30 m or more in good soils. Bark persistent, rough, tessellated, brown. Leaves lack oil glands (hold leaf up to light and use hand lens; a crushed leaf has no smell of eucalyptus oil). Stamens red/scarlet/orange.

DISTRIBUTION

Widely planted in milder parts of New Zealand, especially near the coast

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

Key to the Myrtaceae of New Zealand

SIMILAR TAXA

C. calophylla (marri) is a very similar tree but has white flowers (in NZ, pink-flowered trees are probably hybrids between it and *C. ficifolia*). Without flowers, marri appears very similar to *Corymbia ficifolia*, and both are widely grown in milder parts of New Zealand. The oil glands in the leaves of marri provide easy identification - use hand lens or crush and smell (leaves of *C. ficifolia* lack oil glands and hence crushed leaves are almost odourless).

FLOWERING

Late Dec - Feb

FLOWER COLOURS

Orange, Red/Pink

THREATS

This taxon may be prone to Myrtle Rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) is an invasive fungus which threatens myrtle species - learn more myrtlerust.org.nz

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/corymbia-ficifolia/>



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