Corymbia ficifolia

COMMON NAMES
scarlet-flowered gum

BIOSTATUS
Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS
Not applicable

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED 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.



Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 01/02/2006, Licence: CC BY-NC.

FLOWER COLOURS
Orange, Red/Pink



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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).

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

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

GENUS
Corymbia

FAMILY
Myrtaceae

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

SYNONYMS
Eucalyptus ficifolia

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

FLOWERING
Late Dec - Feb

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY
Key to the Myrtaceae of New Zealand

NVS CODE
CORFIC

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/corymbia-ficifolia/

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