

Crotalaria lunata

COMMON NAMES

Rattlepod

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Erect shrub or small tree, 2-5 m high; stems densely pubescent, often glabrescent. Leaves simple, ovate or elliptic, 60-130 x 33-80 mm wide, upper surface glabrous, lower surface densely greyish pubescent; petiole 10-20 mm long; stipules leafy c.10 mm long. Racemes c.150 mm long; pedicels c.15 mm long. Calyx c. 15 mm long, pubescent. Corolla 25-30 mm long, yellow with red-brown striations, wings + longer than keel; keel incurved at middle, beak c.15 mm long, twisted at apex. Pod 50-70 mm long, glabrous; seeds c.5 mm long, glossy, minutely papillose.

GENUS

Crotalaria

FAMILY

Fabaceae

AUTHORITY

Crotalaria lunata Bedd. ex Polhill

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

August - December

FRUITING

Pods present throughout the year

YEAR NATURALISED

2007

ORIGIN

India - see

[http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=gn&ame=Crotalaria](http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=gn&name=Crotalaria)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/crotalaria-lunata/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026



Flowers. Aug 2007. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Foliage. Aug 2007. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.