**Malvaviscus arboreus var. arboreus**

**COMMON NAME**
Turks cap

**FAMILY**
Malvaceae

**AUTHORITY**
Malvaviscus arboreus Cav. var. arboreus

**FLORA CATEGORY**
Vascular – Exotic

**STRUCTURAL CLASS**
Dicotyledonous Trees & Shrubs

**CONSERVATION STATUS**
Not assessed

**HABITAT**
Terrestrial.

**FEATURES**
Spreading shrub to 3 m high, often spreading vegetatively by layering. Leaves not lobed or shallowly 3-lobed, velvety to touch, 5-15 cm long. Flowers, axillary, solitary or few in fascicles; petals scarlet, 20-35 mm long. Fruit fleshy, red, 1-3 cm diameter.

**FLOWERING**
June, July, August, September, October, November, December, January, February

**FLOWER COLOURS**
Red/Pink

**YEAR NATURALISED**
1981

**ORIGIN**
Tropical and sub-tropical America

**ETYMOLOGY**
*arboreus*: From the Latin arbor ‘tree’, meaning tree-like

**Reason For Introduction**
Ornamental

**Life Cycle Comments**
Perennial. Have seen fruit; potentially significant weed.

**Reproduction**
Spreads by layering.

**Tolerances**
Shade tolerant.

**MORE INFORMATION**