

# Melaleuca linearis

## COMMON NAME

bottlebrush

## SYNONYMS

Callistemon rigidus R.Br.

## FAMILY

Myrtaceae

## AUTHORITY

Melaleuca linearis Schrad. & J.C.Wendl.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

CALRIG

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small to medium shrub. Young shoots covered with silky hairs. Leaves up to 11cm x 4 mm, narrow linear, bearing numerous small dots, vein forming rigid margins. Deep red flowers in spikes.

## MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

Key to the Myrtaceae of New Zealand

## SIMILAR TAXA

Can be distinguished from widely cultivated *C. citrinis* by the narrower leaves and the veins forming ridges.

## FLOWERING

October, November, December, January, February

## FLOWER COLOURS

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](http://myrtlerust.org.nz)

## YEAR NATURALISED

1982

## ORIGIN

Australia: NSW.

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental



Ex-nursery plant, planted in a garden on St John's Hill, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 03/04/2020, Licence: Public domain.



Ex-nursery plant, planted in a garden on St John's Hill, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 03/04/2020, Licence: Public domain.

## ETYMOLOGY

**linearis:** Linear (leaves)

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/melaleuca-linearis/>