

# Pittosporum rigidum

## SYNONYMS

*Pittosporum rigidum* Hook.f. var. *rigidum*, *Pittosporum rigidum* var. *majus* Allan, *Pittosporum crassicaule* Laing et Gourlay

## FAMILY

Pittosporaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Pittosporum rigidum* Hook.f.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

PITRIG

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 24

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Hard shrub with thick wide-angled pale branches bearing often brownish small leathery leaves varying between smooth oval leaves and deeply-lobed leaves. Twigs with rusty or pale fuzz. Flowers dark red, inconspicuous. Fruit a capsule, surface uneven, splitting into two to show the 6-12 black seeds.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

## SIMILAR TAXA

The characters used to distinguish *Pittosporum crassicaule* seem scarcely sufficient to separate this entity at species rank from the rather variable *P. rigidum*. Similarly the status of larger-leaved forms known as var. *majus* is unclear. *P. rigidum* would repay critical study using a selection of molecular markers.

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

## ETYMOLOGY

**pittosporum**: Pitch seed

**rigidum**: Stiff



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#### MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pittosporum-rigidum/>