

Pyracantha angustifolia

COMMON NAMES

orange firethorn, narrowleaf firethorn

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS

White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Evergreen shrub up to 2.5m high. Leaf narrowly oblanceolate to oblong, up to 55 x 10 mm. Dark green and glabrous above, lanate and pale grey-green below, margin slightly recurved, entire or sometimes with a few minute serrations near tip of largest leaves. Corymbs up to approx. 30mm across; pedicels 6~18mm long, grey-tomentose. Sepals triangular, about .8mm long, greyish lanate, acute. Petals obovate or broadly elliptic, 3.5~5mm long, rounded, white. Stamens = petals. Fruit depressed-globose, 4~6 x 6~7mm, glossy orange.

SIMILAR TAXA

Can easily be separated from *P. crenatoserrata* and *P. crenulata* as it has smaller leaves that are hairy on the undersurface.

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

GENUS

Pyracantha

FAMILY

Rosaceae

AUTHORITY

Pyracantha angustifolia (Franch.) C.K.Schneid.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

December, January

FRUITING

April to August

YEAR NATURALISED

1958

ORIGIN

China



Kauri Glen, Northcote, Auckland. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 21/07/2006, Licence: CC BY.



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REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial. Viable seed is uncommon (Edgar and Connor 2000)

ETYMOLOGY

angustifolia: From the Latin angustus 'narrow, constricted' and folius 'leaf', meaning narrow-leaved

NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord. The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](#).

ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC. 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report [here](#).

NVS CODE

PYRANG

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pyracantha-angustifolia/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026