

Rhaphiolepis umbellata

COMMON NAMES

sexton's bride

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Bushy shrub to about 3 m high. Leaves distributed along younger stems, petiole 10-15mm, with the upper part meeting a tapering lower leaf. Pale brown tomentose at first but becoming glabrous on both surfaces. Inflorescence an erect terminal, with c. 20 flowers. Sepals pilose, purplish or reddish. Petals white, filaments pink. (summary of Webb et al 1988)

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

GENUS

Rhaphiolepis

FAMILY

Rosaceae

AUTHORITY

Rhaphiolepis umbellata (Thunb.) Makino

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

July, August, September, October, November, December

FRUITING

March- April

YEAR NATURALISED

1982

ORIGIN

Japan, Korea

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

TOLERANCES

Can invade poor soils so is a species to watch (Ewen Cameron 1996)

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial. 6 months flowering, 6 months fruiting.



In forest edge, Eastbourne hills. Photographer: John Sawyer, Date taken: 01/11/2007, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Eastbourne hills. Photographer: John Sawyer, Date taken: 01/11/2007, Licence: CC BY-NC.

ETYMOLOGY

umbellata: Bearing flowers in umbels

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

RHAUMB

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/rhaphiolepis-umbellata/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026