

Sophora cassioides

COMMON NAMES

Chilean pelu

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

SIMILAR TAXA

Sophora chathamica and *S. microphylla*. Chilean Pelu (*S. cassioides*) is often sold by nurseries as *Sophora microphylla* cv. Goldilocks. It can be recognised by its dark, glossy green, round leaflets which are evenly spaced at the base and become overlapping toward the apex of the leaf, and also by its smaller flowers, which open very widely.

GENUS

Sophora

FAMILY

Fabaceae

AUTHORITY

Sophora cassioides (Phil.) Sparre

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

2004

ORIGIN

South America (Chile), Gough Island. Until recently this species was referred to *S. microphylla*, a species to which it is certainly allied but nevertheless easily distinguished.

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Horticultural

TOLERANCES

Very cold and wind tolerant. Can tolerate drought and other extremes of weather.

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

A slow growing tree. Reproduces by seed which is dispersed by wind and gravity.

ETYMOLOGY

sophora: After the Arabic name for a similar tree



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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/sophora-cassioides/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026