

Viscum album

COMMON NAMES

Mistletoe, European mistletoe

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Hemi-parasitic evergreen shrub, a metre or more in diameter and a range of host trees and shrubs (see note below). Dioecious. Flowers inconspicuous, green. Fruit a white berry.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

DISTRIBUTION

It was present locally in the Wairarapa in the vicinity of Masterton & Greytown, but seems to have died out in the early 1970s. (Tom Moss, pers. comm. in 1980s)

HABITAT

Barney, C. W., Hawksworth, F. G. and Geils, B. W. (1998) "identified hosts among 452 species, subspecies, varieties, and hybrids in 96 genera of 44 families. Rosaceae has the most hosts with 128 taxa parasitized. Commonly infested genera include Salix, Populus, Acer, Malus, Crataegus, Prunus, Sorbus, Abies, and Pinus."

GENUS

Viscum

FAMILY

Santalaceae

AUTHORITY

Viscum album L.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

album: From the Latin albus 'white'

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/viscum-album/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026



On apple, Strasbourg, France. Jun 2013.
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