

Rubus idaeus

COMMON NAMES

raspberry

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS

White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Erect shrub to about 2 m high with dense suckering habit, stems often growing horizontally when older. Stems are armed with numerous weak prickles. Leaves usually with 2 pairs of leaflets (occasionally 3). Leaflets are ovate, with obvious white tomentum beneath and serrate margins. The inflorescence consists of a few white flowers up to 25 mm diameter. Fruit are red or orange drupelets, up to 15 mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

The lower surface with dense white tomentum is characteristic of *R. idaeus*, the fruit (rasberries) are also familiar to most people.

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Roadsides, wasteland, streambanks, scrub edges.

GENUS

Rubus

FAMILY

Rosaceae

AUTHORITY

Rubus idaeus L.

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

November, December, January

FRUITING

January, February, March

YEAR NATURALISED

1870

ORIGIN

N. temperate, E. Asia



Rubus idaeus. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Agricultural

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Reproduces by suckers but can also set viable seed. Dispersed by birds and humans.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

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

ETYMOLOGY

rubus: From the Latin meaning bramble

NVS CODE

RUBIDA

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/rubus-idaeus/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026