

Pittosporum undulatum

COMMON NAMES

sweet pittosporum

FAMILY

Pittosporaceae

AUTHORITY

Pittosporum undulatum Vent.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

SIMILAR TAXA

Can be distinguished from all indigenous NZ species and other species in cultivation by the combination of the following characters, Petioles purplish; lamina to 15 x 5 cm, elliptic, strongly undulate; fls in terminal panicles, very fragrant; petals 10-12 mm long, almost white, reflexing; capsules 1-1.5 cm diam., subglobose before dehiscence, orange; seeds deep orange and extremely viscid (Webb et al 1988).

FLOWER COLOURS

White

LIFE CYCLE

Reproduces from seed, also can re-sprout from wind damage in Jamaica (P. Bellingham pers com.). Seed is dispersed by birds (Webb et al 1988, Heenan et al 2002)

YEAR NATURALISED

1970

ORIGIN

S.E. Australia

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

ETYMOLOGY

pittosporum: Pitch seed

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](#).



MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pittosporum-undulatum/>

PDF DATE

17 September 2024