

Lupinus arboreus

COMMON NAME

tree lupin

FAMILY

Fabaceae

AUTHORITY

Lupinus arboreus Sims

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

LUPARB

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Short tussockland, bare land, riverbeds, coastal sandy and well drained areas.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

UPL: Obligate Upland

Rarely is a hydrophyte, almost always in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Short-lived, perennial shrub to 2-3 m high. Deep taproot. Stems densely silky-hairy when young, tough, erect, branching, becoming soft-woody. Leaves grey-green, hairless above, silky below, divided into 5-11 leaflets spreading out from one point finger-like; leaflets 15-40 x 3-10 mm. Flowers pea-like, 15-18 mm long, usually pale yellow (rarely white or bluish), sweetly scented, Oct-May. Seed pod stout, softly hairy, 40-80 mm long, firmly attached; splits explosively to disperse dark brown, mottled seeds, 4-6 mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

L. angustifolius blue lupin is a semi-woody annual with blue flowers Aug-Apr, occasionally weedy. *L. polyphyllus* herbaceous weedy species with blue flowers. Hybrid *L. arboreus* x *polyphyllus* has larger and more leaflets, flower yellow with blue or purple streaks; is rarely weedy.

FLOWERING

October, November, December, January, February, March, April, May

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

YEAR NATURALISED

1899

ORIGIN

California, N. America

ETYMOLOGY

arboreus: From the Latin arbor 'tree', meaning tree-like



Hutt River. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 07/06/2006, Licence: CC BY.



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Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

Life Cycle Comments

Perennial.

Reproduction

Reproduces via seed.

Seed

Seed long-lasting in soil.

Dispersal

Water and soil movement. Explosive pods. Deliberately sown for sand consolidation, erosion control.

Tolerances

Tolerates wind, salt, hot to cold, physical damage and grazing (not readily eaten), drought, low fertility (fixes nitrogen), fire. Intolerant of moderate shade and waterlogged soils.

Poisonous plant:

The seed are poisonous if they are chewed or crushed before eating.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lupinus-arboreus/>