

Cestrum elegans

COMMON NAME

red cestrum

FAMILY

Solanaceae

AUTHORITY

Cestrum elegans (Brongn.) Schlttdl.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub 2-4 high; shoots and petioles densely covered in purplish hairs. Petiole to 2cm long. Lamina 4-10x1.5-5cm (to at least 16 x 7 cm on vegetative shoots), ovate, elliptic or lanceolate, hairy, densely so beneath; base cuneate to rounded; apex acute or short-acuminate. Infl. paniculate, dense; branches purple, hairy; fls subsessile to shortly pedicellate, scentless. Calyx c. 7mm long, purple, usually glabrous outside; teeth 1-4mm long, triangular, acute or short-acuminate, +/- ciliate. Corolla 1.8-2.5 cm long, rosy magenta to deep crimson; tube funnelform with narrow-cylindric base and constricted apex, glabrous, shining; lobes 1-3mm long, +/- hairy outside, glabrous inside, short-acuminate. Fr. apparently uncommon, to 2x1.5cm, obovoid, glossy crimson. (Webb.et.al.1988)

SIMILAR TAXA

Corolla tube glabrose outside, rosy magenta or deep rose.

FLOWERING

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Violet/Purple

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial.

YEAR NATURALISED

1958

ORIGIN

Mexico

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental.

ETYMOLOGY

elegans: Elegant



Hills above Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt.
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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](#).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cestrum-elegans/>