

# Cestrum nocturnum

## COMMON NAMES

queen of the night

## FAMILY

Solanaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Cestrum nocturnum* L.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

CESNOC

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub, generally 1.5-2.5 m high, almost glabrous. Petiole c. 1cm long. Lamina 5-15 X 1.5-6 cm, elliptic to elliptic-ovate, glabrous or with minute puberulence when young; base cuneate to rounded, sometimes asymmetric; apex abruptly acuminate. Panicle open, large; fls usually shortly pedicellate, sometimes sessile, fragrant nocturnally. Calyx 2-3 mm long; lobes >1 mm long, +/- triangular, densely ciliate, acut. Corolla 1.5-2 cm long, pale green or greenish white; tube cylindrical to narrow-funnelform, widening slightly above; lobes 3 mm long, eventually spreading, glabrous except for shortly villous margins. Fruit c. 0.5 - 1 cm diameter, globose to ellipsoid, white glossy. (Webb et al 1988).

## SIMILAR TAXA

Flowers in rather diffuse clusters; fruit white; fragrant nocturnally.

## FLOWERING

November, December, January, February, March

## FLOWER COLOURS

Green, White

## LIFE CYCLE

Perennial.

## YEAR NATURALISED

1980

## ORIGIN

West Indies, Central America

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental.



*Cestrum nocturnum*, Cult, Coromandel.

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



*Cestrum nocturnum*, Cult, Coromandel.

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

## 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/cestrum-nocturnum/>

## PDF DATE

17 September 2024