

Cotoneaster glaucophyllus

COMMON NAMES

cotoneaster, large-leaved cotoneaster

FAMILY

Rosaceae

AUTHORITY

Cotoneaster glaucophyllus Franch.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

COTGLA

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Prefers free draining soil (Fromont and King, 1992). Gardens, bushland, wasteland areas and along railway lines. (Ermert and Clapp 1998) Wasteland, scrub in gullies, a garden weed (Webb et al., 1988). Stream banks, riverbeds, coastal and inshore islands, dry shrublands, rocklands, forest steeplands, coastal forest, forest margins and slips, roadside, quarries, wasteland, exotic plantations (Fromont and King, 1992).

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

UPL: Obligate Upland

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

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Spreading, evergreen shrub 2-5 m high. Stems erect at first then arching, young shoots buff coloured, maturing to dark reddish purple. Leaves up to 70 x 35 mm mostly distributed along young long shoots, often clustered on short shoots. dull and hairless above, pale tomentose below, but becoming hairless. flowers in groups of 15-60, petals white and spreading. Fruit 4-7mm diameter, scarlet or orange-red, glossy.

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

[Key to Cotoneaster species present in New Zealand](#)

SIMILAR TAXA

Similar to *C. coriaceus*, but the veins are not obvious on the upper surface of the leaf. Also similar to *C. pannosus*, but this species has smaller leaves with the lower surface persistently tomentose.

FLOWERING

October, November, December, January

FLOWER COLOURS

White

FRUITING

February - August



Cotoneaster glaucophyllus in flower.

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



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

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Life-span expected to be several decades i.e. may outlive shrubby coprosmas (Fromont and King, 1992). Likely to have seed bank viability of about 2 years (Fromont and King, 1992). Reproduces by seed; each fruit contains many seeds with high viability (ibid.). Birds eat berries and the contained seeds are dispersed accordingly (Fromont and King, 1992)(Ermert and Clapp 1998).

YEAR NATURALISED

1982

ORIGIN

China, N. temperate Old World regions, Himalayas

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental.

TOLERANCES

Tolerant of moderate shade, tolerant of frost, tolerant of grazing (will resprout if cut), wide moisture tolerance (Fromont and King, 1992).

ETYMOLOGY

cotoneaster: From cotoneus an old Latin name for the quince, and possibly aster, corruption of adinstar 'resembling', i.e. quince-like

glaucophyllus: Blue or greyish/bluish leaves; having bloom on the leaves

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/cotoneaster-glaucophyllus/>

PDF DATE

17 September 2024