

Erica arborea

COMMON NAME

tree heath

FAMILY

Ericaceae

AUTHORITY

Erica arborea L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

ERIARB

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Riverbanks and regenerating forest.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Shrub or small tree to about 5 m. Shoots densely hairy. Leaves 3-7 mm long. Small white bell-shaped flowers in racemes along the stems. Seed capsule about 2 mm long, each containing many very small seeds.

SIMILAR TAXA

Is very similar to *E. lusitanica* but can be easily distinguished by the hairy stems and much larger growth form.

FLOWERING

July, August, September, October, November, December,

FLOWER COLOURS

White

YEAR NATURALISED

1935

ORIGIN

Mediterranean region to highlands of E. Africa

ETYMOLOGY

erica: From the Greek ereika 'heath' or 'heather'

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

Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/erica-arborea/>



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



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