

Berberis glaucocarpa

COMMON NAME

barberry

FAMILY

Berberidaceae

AUTHORITY

Berberis glaucocarpa Stapf

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

BERGLA

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Glabrous, evergreen or semi-deciduous shrub to c. 7m high. Spines to 2.3 cm long, sometimes single, sometimes 3-partite. Lvs with short petiole to 5 mm long. Lamina up to 7.5 x 2.5 cm, oblanceolate but often very variable on one plant, spiny margins and shining above. Flowers yellow, sometimes with outer parts red-tinged, arranged in simple or compound racemes to 6 cm long. Berry 7-12mm long, broadly ellipsoid to subglobose, reddish black, with an obvious white bloom. Juice dark red with seed about 1mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

The combination of large spiny leaves, and 3-partite spines to 2.5 cm long distinguish *B. glaucocarpa* from other berberis species naturalised in New Zealand. It also grows to about 7 m which is much taller than the other species.

FLOWERING

October, November

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Yellow

FRUITING

December, January, February

LIFE CYCLE

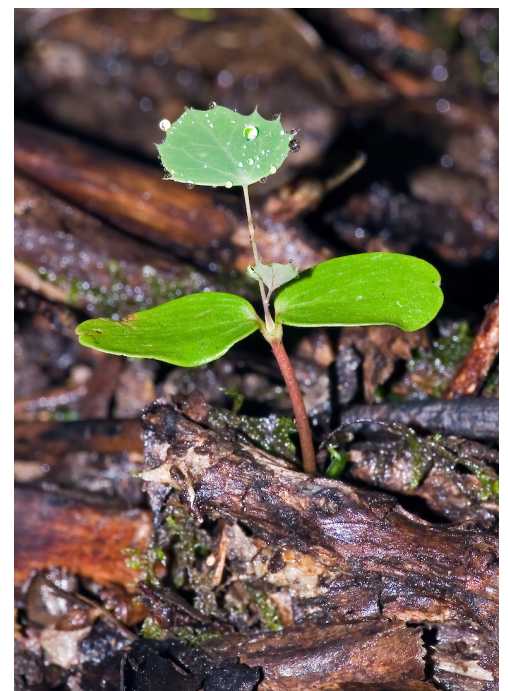
Perennial. Produces seed which is dispersed by birds and vertebrates.

YEAR NATURALISED

1916



Cannon Point Walkway, Upper Hutt.
Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken:
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Seedling. Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt.
Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken:
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ORIGIN

W Himalaya

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental.

TOLERANCES

Thought not to be as shade tolerant as other Berberis species. Requires moderate fertility.

ETYMOLOGY

berberis: From the Arabic name berberys

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/berberis-glaucocarpa/>