

# Cornus capitata

## COMMON NAME

Strawberry dogwood

## SYNONYMS

*Dendrobenthamia capitata*

## FAMILY

Cornaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Cornus capitata* Wall. ex Roxb.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small evergreen tree to about 6 m high. Stems hairy when young, becoming glabrous. Leaves opposite, to about 10 cm long on short petiole. Numerous pale yellow flowers. Fruit almost round 2-4 cm diameter, ripening to red.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Is often mistaken for *Arbutus unedo* (strawberry tree) but is easily distinguished as *C. capitata* has opposite leaves lacking teeth, and the fruit is not spiky.

## FLOWERING

December, January

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

## FRUITING

March, April

## YEAR NATURALISED

1922

## ORIGIN

Himalayas to W. China

## ETYMOLOGY

**capitata**: From the Latin *capitus* 'head', with a knob-like head or tip

## Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: Ogle, C. (Year at time of access): *Cornus capitata* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cornus-capitata/> (Date website was queried)



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**MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cornus-capitata/>