

Erica baccans

COMMON NAME

berry heath

FAMILY

Ericaceae

AUTHORITY

Erica baccans L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE

ERIBAC

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Glabrous shrub up to about 2 m tall. Leaves up to 9 mm long. Small pink bell-shaped flowers are held in bunches on the ends of stems. Corolla with 4 blunt ridges and depressions between them. Seed capsule to about 5 mm.

SIMILAR TAXA

The ridges and depressions of the corolla allow it to be distinguished from other Erica species in New Zealand.

FLOWERING

August, September, October, November, December

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

LIFE CYCLE

Many thousands of seeds produced. Dispersed by gravity and humans (Atkinson 1997).

YEAR NATURALISED

1937

ORIGIN

S.W. Cape area, South Africa

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

TOLERANCES

Requires low to medium soil fertility (Atkinson 1997).

ETYMOLOGY

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



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MORE INFORMATION

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