

Ficus rubiginosa

COMMON NAME

Port Jackson fig

FAMILY

Moraceae

AUTHORITY

Ficus rubiginosa Vent.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Rock walls, firm rocky outcrops. Phoenix palm trunks

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Evergreen small to large tree often starting life as an epiphyte. Leaves smooth above, densely clothed in fine reddish hairs below, oval, 4-12 cm long. Fruit yellow to dull red to 20 mm wide.

SIMILAR TAXA

Can be distinguished from Morton Bay fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) by the smaller, hairy leaves, and smaller fruit.

FLOWERING

December, January, February

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Reproduces from seed. Some layering and resprouting from aerial roots may occur. Dispersed by birds.

YEAR NATURALISED

1981

ORIGIN

NSW, Queensland

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

ETYMOLOGY

ficus: The Latin name for fig tree, possibly derived from the Hebrew word fag

rubiginosa: Rust-coloured

NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord. The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](https://www.mpi.govt.nz/pest-plant-accord/).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ficus-rubiginosa/>



Cultivated tree, 'Paloma Gardens' Fordell, near Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 16/03/2009, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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