

Kochia scoparia

COMMON NAME

Summer cypress, burning bush, firebush

SYNONYMS

Bassia scoparia

FAMILY

Amaranthaceae

AUTHORITY

Kochia scoparia (L.) Schrad.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Annual plant with a deep taproot. The erect, much-branched stems are smooth below but usually hairy above. The alternate, simple leaves are pubescent to nearly glabrous, lanceolate to linear with hairy margins, and without petioles. The small green flowers lack petals and are found in clusters in the axils of the upper leaves and in terminal spikes. The brown flattened seeds are grooved on each side.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green

LIFE CYCLE

Annual

YEAR NATURALISED

1958

ORIGIN

E. Europe to China

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

ETYMOLOGY

kochia: Wilhelm Daniel Joseph Koch (1771 - 1849), German physician and botanist.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/kochia-scoparia/>

