

Melaleuca citrina

COMMON NAME

common red bottle brush, crimson bottle brush, lemon bottlebrush, honey myrtle

SYNONYMS

Callistemon citrinus

FAMILY

Myrtaceae

AUTHORITY

Melaleuca citrina (Curtis) Dum. Cours.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Erect much-branched shrub to 5 m or more. Flowers in dense red/crimson 'bottlebrush' heads. Crushed leaves lemon scented (hence the common name 'lemon bottlebrush')

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

[Key to the Myrtaceae of New Zealand](#)

SIMILAR TAXA

Melaleuca rigida has shorter, narrower more coriaceous leaves; its persistent capsules are more woody and dense than in *M. citrina*.

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

FRUITING

Hard persistent capsules

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Seed

THREATS

This taxon may be prone to Myrtle Rust (*Austropuccinia psidii*) is an invasive fungus which threatens myrtle species - learn more myrtlerust.org.nz

YEAR NATURALISED

1975

ORIGIN

Australia

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental. Very widely grown in NZ but few confirmed records of it self-establishing

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/melaleuca-citrina/>



Street berm shrubs, Mount View Road, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 28/11/2007, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Inflorescences on street berm shrub, Mount View Road, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 28/11/2007, Licence: CC BY-NC.