

Psidium cattleianum

COMMON NAME

purple guava

FAMILY

Myrtaceae

AUTHORITY

Psidium cattleianum Sabine

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Large shrub or tree to 6 m high. Trunk smooth, pale brown. Leaves smooth, oval to 4-5 cm long. Round fruit to 2 cm diameter becoming dark purple or sometimes yellow. edible.

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

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

SIMILAR TAXA

P. cattleianum can be distinguished from *P. guajava* by its glabrous leaves and the absence of prominent veins on either leaf surface.

FLOWERING

January, February, March

FLOWER COLOURS

White

FRUITING

June-August

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Reproduces from seed. Pig/bird dispersed (Cronk and Fuller).

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

1977

ORIGIN

S Brazil

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Agricultural



Psidium cattleianum. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Psidium cattleianum. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

TOLERANCES

Shade tolerant (Cronk and Fuller).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/psidium-cattleyanum/>