

Toona sinensis

COMMON NAME

Chinese toon, Chinese mahogany, red toon

SYNONYMS

Cedrela sinensis A.Juss At least 20 synonyms given in https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toona_sinensis

FAMILY

Meliaceae

AUTHORITY

Toona sinensis (A.Juss.) M.Roem.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Deciduous tree, often suckering from base. Mostly grown for its pink spring foliage that becomes a cream-yellow then green. In autumn the leaves turn orange-yellow. Flowers in pendulous panicles, small and white or pink. Widely grown in New Zealand gardens and often suckers around planted specimens. In light soils the suckers can extend from garden area into lawns, paths and driveways.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Reputed to be the most cold-tolerant of all members of the Meliaceae

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

YEAR NATURALISED

2009

ORIGIN

Native to eastern and southeastern Asia, from North Korea, most of eastern, central and southwestern China, Nepal, northeastern India, Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, and western Indonesia. (Wikipedia)

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Root suckers (see under 'Habitat' above); often seen growing as a clump. The toon tree "is more commonly grown as a clump due to its ability to produce numerous suckers. This trait can pose problems if left unchecked or when the plant is growing in a confined area. Besides the sucker growth getting out of control and causing damage to paving and structures, it will interfere with neighbouring plants. Regular maintenance and control are important."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/life-style/gardening/2977858/Toona-catches-the-eye>

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/toona-sinensis/>

