

Spartium junceum

COMMON NAME

Spanish broom

FAMILY

Fabaceae

AUTHORITY

Spartium junceum L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Deciduous shrub up to 3 m high. Mature branches and stems are stout, rounded, green to dark green, glabrous and with few leaves. Leaves simple entire and oblong, up to 25 mm on mature branches, up to 45 mm on shaded shoots or seedlings. Inflorescence with numerous golden flowers, up to 28 mm long. Seed pod 50-90 mm long, flattened, becoming glabrous, seeds smooth and dark brown.

SIMILAR TAXA

The unusually shaped Calyx (outer green floral parts) with 5 reduced teeth on one side distinguishes Spanish broom from all other wild NZ legumes (Webb et al 1988).

FLOWERING

December, January, February, March, April, May

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

YEAR NATURALISED

1940

ORIGIN

Mediterranean

Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

Life Cycle Comments

Perennial.

Reproduction

Seed

Seed

Many seeds produced per plant.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/spartium-junceum/>



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