

Abutilon indicum

COMMON NAME

Indian abutilon, Indian mallow

FAMILY

Malvaceae

AUTHORITY

Abutilon indicum (Link) Sweet

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

An erect, many-branched shrub to about 2 m tall. Leaves with stipules, simple, serrate, broadly ovate, with acuminate tips; velvety on both sides. Corolla yellow.

DISTRIBUTION

Occasionally grown in NZ gardens; first seedlings seen near planted shrubs in 2017 near Whanganui

HABITAT

Seedlings appear near planted specimens

SIMILAR TAXA

Some other Abutilon species

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

A dry ridged capsule

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Seed

YEAR NATURALISED

2017

ORIGIN

India and East Asia to Indonesia

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental; perhaps for fibre and medicinal uses.

ETYMOLOGY

abutilon: From the Arabic word for a mallow-like plant.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/abutilon-indicum/>



Seedlings in site where adult shrub had been removed ; garden near Fordell, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 04/03/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Planted shrub in garden (with canna lilies); near Fordell, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 21/01/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.