

Rowan

Rosaceae - *Sorbus aucuparia* subsp. *aucuparia*



What does it look like?

Rowan is a tree that grows up to 8m high, with an erect trunk and spreading branches; young shoots are covered in soft hairs, sometimes densely so, but soon becoming hairless as they mature. Buds are large. Leaves have up to 8 pairs of leaflets; stems green or brown to purplish. Leaflets narrowly oblong or oblong-elliptic, sometimes lanceolate-elliptic, 30~50 x 8~20mm, obtuse to acute, mostly sessile, deep green and glabrous or finely hairy above, paler and finely to densely pilose below, serrate along whole length or sometimes in upper 2/3 only; leaflets of juvenile plants and suckering shoots narrowly elliptic to elliptic-ovate, deeply and jaggedly toothed; stipules generally deciduous, small, acuminate. Infl. drooping, up to approx. 120 mm across; pedicels and branchlets white-villous, becoming glabrate by fruiting. Sepal lobes broadly triangular, .6~1.3mm diam., generally orbicular with abbreviated claw, white. Fruit depressed-globose, sometimes oblong-obovoid, 5~10mm diam., deep orange to scarlet, sometimes crimson, glossy. (-Webb et. al., 1988)

Why is it a problem?

Rowan is tolerant to cold climates, and a wide range of soil conditions. Trees produce highly viable seeds that are spread by birds.

Control methods

Herbicide control:

- Cut plant at ground level and paste with herbicide gel. Cut stumps and roots can regrow so a herbicide is required.

CAUTION: When using any herbicide or pesticide, PLEASE READ THE LABEL THOROUGHLY to ensure that all instructions and safety requirements are followed.

Plants with seed must be buried deeply, burnt, or disposed of at a refuse transfer station.

Follow up at six-monthly intervals to complete eradication.

[Request info](https://eservices.es.govt.nz/online-services/new/BiosecurityRFS/step/1?Subject=PlantPests&Species=228)

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Management programme

- Organisms of interest