

# FACT SHEET

## NATIVE PLANT SPECIES OF NORFOLK ISLAND

### Oleander

*Pittosporum bracteolatum*

From the *Pittosporaceae* family this species, also known as Pittosporum, is endemic to Norfolk Island and is classified as vulnerable.

#### Description

When fully mature, this Norfolk Island endemic can reach heights of 7m. The bark is dark brown with lighter coloured horizontal striations along its length.

Leaves are light green in colour, 7-9cm in length and elongated with the narrower portion at the base of the leaf. Leaves are arranged in a whorled pattern on the end of branches, creating a star-like appearance.

Seed pods develop like hanging fruits on the tree, approximately 5cm in diameter. They mature yellow through brown and open up into three segments. Seeds are spherical, shiny black and are held in the seed capsules by a sticky substance.

#### Distribution

Naturally regenerating where cattle are not present, this species can readily be found in the hardwood forests across Norfolk Island, particularly in areas of higher elevation.



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### Growing conditions

Young trees are relatively hardy but will thrive with partial shade and some wind protection. Adult trees can be found in full sun.

### Propagation

Can be readily propagated at home from seed. More information can be found in *"A guide to propagating Norfolk Island's native plants and seeds"*, available from the National Parks office (online link shown at right).

### Look-a-likes

May be mistaken for the exotic *Pittosporum undulatum* (Sweet Pittosporum, Mock Orange) which has a similar leaf arrangement.

Identifying factors for the *P. undulatum* are the obvious undulations along the leaf edge, as well as the small orange fruit that open into two segments instead of three.



### Further information

For further information about propagation of Norfolk Island native plants and seeds, follow the link to Norfolk Island National Park website below:

<https://www.nespthreatenedspecies.edu.au/media/nlohxopn/a-guide-to-propagating-norfolk-island-seeds-and-plants-2021.pdf>