

Common Pink lantana

Lantana camara L. *sensu lato* var. "Common Pink" Smith & Smith



Description: shrubs with prickly stems; foliage often with a yellowish hue (particularly in exposed habitats); leaves generally ovate to elliptic, sometimes twisted towards the apex, size highly variable; leaf adaxial surfaces flat to slightly rugose, usually slightly scabrous, more or less dull; leaf margins finely serrate-crenate; corollas changing colour as they age with young (central) flowers cream to yellow with darker centre, mature (marginal) flowers usually rose to fuchsia with orange centre.

Distribution: chiefly within 150 km of the coast from Rockhampton in QLD south to Narooma in NSW, but also with a disjunct presence in northern QLD from the Daintree to the Atherton tablelands, and occasional populations outside this range.

Notes: the most common and widespread variety of lantana in Australia. The only variety in southern NSW, with potential for southward range expansion. May be difficult to distinguish from localised varieties of similar appearance, particularly in northern and central QLD. Does not typically interbreed with other varieties.

Further reading

Lu-Irving P, Encinas-Viso F, Callander J, Day MD, Le Roux JJ (2022). New insights from population genomics into the invasive *Lantana camara* L species complex. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Australasian Weeds Conference. Council of Australasian Weed Societies pp. 45–47.

Smith LS, Smith DA (1982). The naturalised *Lantana camara* complex in Eastern Australia. Queensland Botany Bulletin 1: 1–26.