

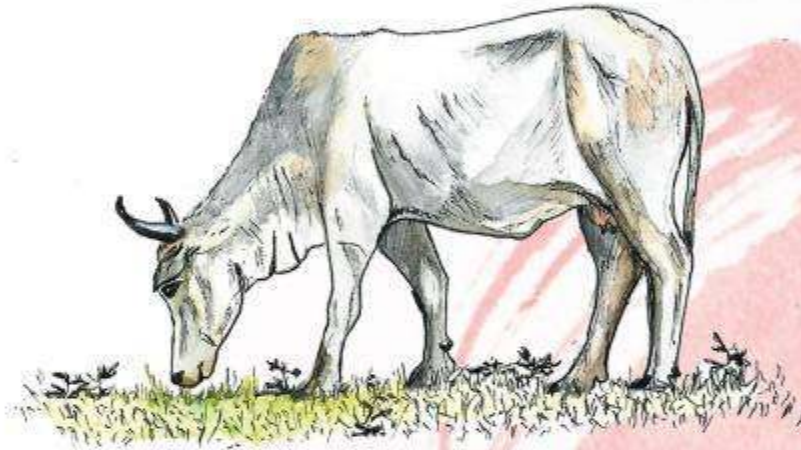
SPECIES: *CESTRUM AURANTIACUM*

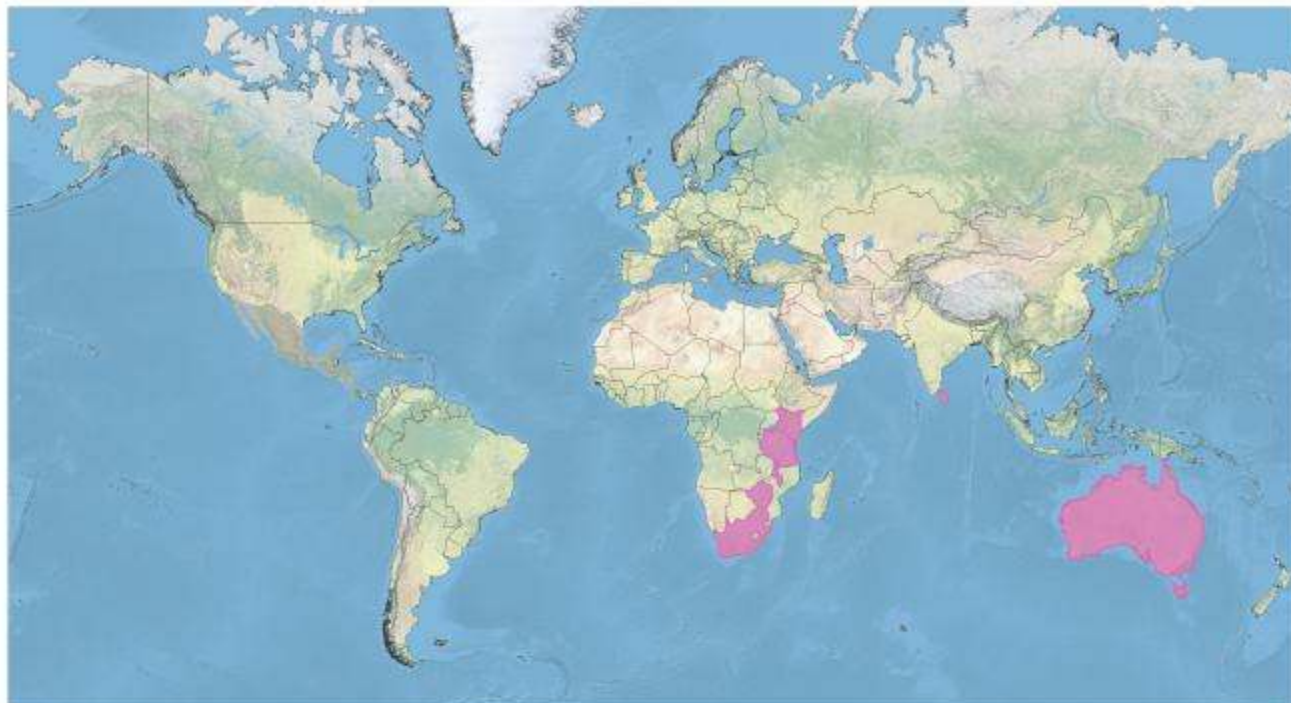
COMMON NAME: ORANGE CESTRUM / YELLOW SHRUB
JESSAMINE

FAMILY: SOLANACEAE

Plant Description

A large shrub that grows erect, sometimes climbing over other plants and spreading out over a large area. It usually grows up to a height of 3 m but can grow to be over 6 m. The plant is densely branched with longitudinally striated bark. The plant has dark green leaves with yellow venation; leaves are ovate or narrowly ovate with pointy ends. Flowers are yellow-to-orange coloured in terminal inflorescences, and are pleasantly scented. The fruits are berry-like, and white or creamy yellow in colour. The leaves, when crushed, exude a strong unpleasant odour.





CABI, 2022. *Cestrum aurantiacum*. In: Invasive Species Compendium. Wallingford, UK: CAB International. <https://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/14929585#toDistributionMaps> [accessed: 25/01/2022]

Introduced
Native
Origin not recorded

Note: Although not depicted on this map, the plant is considered invasive in India

***Cestrum aurantiacum* SOLANACEAE**

Origin: Central America

Introduction: The plant was introduced to India as an ornamental and hedge plant. (It was brought to Sri Lanka in the late 19th century, and is likely to have arrived in India around the same time).

Impacts: It grows in open areas along roadsides, and on the edges of forests and plantations. The plant aggressively colonises habitats that it invades, forming dense clumps and clambering over other plants, thus reducing the diversity of native plants by outcompeting them for resources. When disturbed, its shallow root system can produce many new plants. The plant is highly poisonous to cattle and other livestock, and even to humans.

Management: Ideally, the plant should be removed before it flowers or produces fruits. The mechanical removal of the whole plant, including roots, is recommended. The roots should be burned after removal. (Root fragments remaining in the soil can produce new plants.) Follow-up removals have to be done. Planting native pasture plants following mechanical removal is recommended, to outcompete new *C. aurantiacum* seedlings.