

Westringia fruticosa

COMMON NAME

coastal rosemary, morning light, McKain's puzzle

FAMILY

Lamiaceae

AUTHORITY

Westringia fruticosa (Willd.) Druce

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

In New Zealand this species has been collected four times from the Auckland Region. Twice from hard gumland clay within a cemetery (Waikumete) and in a coastal subdivision (Greenhithe) and twice from joints within basalt lava flows (Mt Albert, Western Springs). These situations appear to be examples of genuinely wild plants. This species is widely cultivated in New Zealand.

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

YEAR NATURALISED

1997

ORIGIN

Western Australia

ETYMOLOGY

fruticosa: Shrubby

Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

Life Cycle Comments

Long-lived perennial shrub

Reproduction

Apparently strictly dioecious

Seed

No seed has been observed in any New Zealand wild gathering but this plant is turning up naturalised, so some seed must be produced.

Dispersal

Gravity and possibly birds

Tolerances

Very drought resistant

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/westringia-fruticosa/>



Westringia fruticosa close up of flowers (wild plant), Western Springs, Auckland.

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Westringia fruticosa plant growing in jointed basalt lava flow, Western Springs, Auckland.

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