

Actinidia chinensis var. deliciosa

COMMON NAMES

kiwifruit

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS

White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Vigorous, dioecious, densely hairy vine. Shoots have shaggy, reddish, simple hairs when young. Petioles reddish tomentous, very variable in length but usually less than lamina. Lamina to about 14 X 14 cm, broadly ovate, with tomentum of whitish hairs beneath, also with simple scattered reddish hairs but becoming almost hairless above, margins denticulate or ciliate. White flowers to about 6 cm across (larger on female than male plants). Fruit 4-8 x 3-4 cm, brown and hairy with green flesh and numerous small black seeds.

SIMILAR TAXA

Quite similar to *A. chinensis*, is easily identified by the distinctive coat of red hairs on young shoots.

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

GENUS

Actinidia

FAMILY

Actinidiaceae

AUTHORITY

Actinidia chinensis var. *deliciosa* A.Chev.

SYNONYMS

Actinidia deliciosa (A.Chev.) C.F.Liang & A.R.Ferguson

FLOWERING

October, November, December

YEAR NATURALISED

1982

ORIGIN

S. China

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Agricultural



Alongside railway track, Auckland. Dec 2006.
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Alongside railway track, Auckland. Dec 2006.
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LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial.

ETYMOLOGY

actinidia: From the Greek aktis 'ray' or 'star', referring to the star-like flowers or rayed stigmas of the female blooms

ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC. 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report [here](#).

NVS CODE

ACTCVD

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/actinidia-chinensis-var-deliciosa/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026