

Apium leptophyllum

COMMON NAMES

slender celery

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

White

SIMILAR TAXA

Erect, glabrous, annual terrestrial herb. Stems hollow, slightly grooved, striate, up to 50 cm high. Basal leaves 3-4 pinnate or ternate, petiolate; ultimate segments linear to filiform, entire, 2-15 mm long; stem leaves similar to basal but 2-3 ternate, shortly petiolate. Umbels 1-3 cm diameter, flowers 5-petaled, 1 mm diameter. Fruit broadly ovoid, 1.5-3 mm long, dark brown; ribs broad, thickened, pale brown. (Webb et al 1988)

GENUS

Apium

FAMILY

Apiaceae

AUTHORITY

Apium leptophyllum (Pers.) F. Muell. ex Benth.

SYNONYMS

Ciclospermum leptophyllum (Pers.) Sprague ex Britton & P.Wilson (orth. var.), *Cyclospermum leptophyllum* (Pers.) Sprague ex Britton & P.Wilson

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

July, August, September, October, November, December, January. February

YEAR NATURALISED

1869

ORIGIN

N., C. and S. America

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Reproduces by seed. The seeds are fine balls that have deeply ribbed coverings. These break open when dry and shed their seed. The seed is then dispersed by the wind (Ermert and Clapp 1998).



Ciclospermum leptophyllum. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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ETYMOLOGY

apium: The ancient Latin name for celery or parsley. Believed to be derived from the Celtic word apon 'ditch' and refers to the watery habitat of many species

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/apium-leptophyllum/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026