

Bidens pilosa

COMMON NAMES

cobbler's pegs

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

SIMILAR TAXA

This annual plant grows up to around 1.5 - 2 m tall. There are 3 -5 leaflets, which are tapered ovals with serrated margins. They are bright green, slightly hairy and on brown stems with parallel ridges. The numerous terminal flowers are yellow in a tightly packed head (approximately 7 mm across). (Ermert and Clapp 1998)

GENUS

Bidens

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Bidens pilosa L.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

1832

ORIGIN

unknown

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Accidental

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

The 'Cobbler's pegs' are the seeds, which are dark brown or black, slender and have barbed ends, which allows them to catch in material or fur. The pegs are in a ball or starburst formation on the plant with the barbs on the outer edge. (Ermert and Clapp 1998)

ETYMOLOGY

bidens: From the Latin bi- 'two' and dens 'teeth', the seed having two tooth-like projections

NVS CODE

BIDPIL

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/bidens-pilosa/>



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