

# Calystegia soldanella

## COMMON NAME

shore bindweed, shore convolvulus, rauparaha

## SYNONYMS

*Convolvulus soldanella* L.

## FAMILY

Convolvulaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Calystegia soldanella* (L.) R.Br.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

CALSOL

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. Kermadec, Three Kings, North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands. Indigenous to both Northern and Southern Hemisphere temperate regions.

## HABITAT

Coastal or inland along lake shorelines. Usually in sand or shell banks but also grows in fine gravel or pumice, talus slopes and on occasion in coastal turf or on cliff faces.

## FEATURES

Perennial herb with stout, white, deeply descending, fleshy roots and numerous prostrate branching stems forming dense patches. Stems glabrous. Petioles 80 mm or less, slender. Leaves (10-)50(-80) x (10-)50(-75) mm, reniform, fleshy, glossy, entire; sinus shallow and rounded; apex emarginate, obtuse or acute. Flowers solitary; peduncles ribbed, 100 mm long. Bracts ovate, cordate, obtuse 12-18 mm long. Sepals nearly = bracts, obtuse. Corolla 20-40 x 25-50 mm, campanulate, pink with white mid-petaline bands. Capsule 15-20 mm long, broad-ovoid, apiculate. Seeds dark brown, smooth.



*Calystegia soldanella*. Photographer: John Sawyer



Fortrose Spit. Photographer: John Barkla

## SIMILAR TAXA

None - the prostrate habit and reniform leaves clearly distinguish this species from all other indigenous and introduced *Calystegia* species. However, *C. soldanella* forms hybrids with *C. tuguriorum*, and these can be recognised by their weakly lianoid habit, puberulent, subsucculent stems and leaves, reniform to deltoid leaves, and pale pink subcampanulate flowers. *C. soldanella* is also suspected to hybridise with *C. sepium* subsp. *roseata*, and *C. marginata*.

## FLOWERING

August-March

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## FRUITING

Present throughout the year

## LIFE CYCLE

Capsules are water and possibly also wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from seed or rooted pieces. Once established very hard to eradicate! An attractive ground cover for a difficult, dry, sunny or exposed spot. For a bit of variety try growing it in bach lawns - its does not require mowing and is much more interesting than kikuyu grass (*Pennisetum clandestinum* Chiov.)

## ETYMOLOGY

**calystegia:** Name is derived from the Greek words kalyx 'cup', and stege 'a covering', meaning 'a covered cup', the calyx of some bindweeds being enclosed in two bracts.

**soldanella:** From Latin 'soldo' a type of coin, referring to the shape of the leaves

## CULTURAL USE/IMPORTANCE

The Maori gathered the thick, white, fleshy roots and pounded these to form a pulp, this was then used as a relish to flavour some meats.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 November 2005. Description adapted from Allan (1961) and Webb et al. (1988), supplemented with observations made from fresh and dried material.

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Wellington, Government Printer.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285-309

Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. 1988: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. Naturalised Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, Dicotyledons. Christchurch, New Zealand, Botany Division, D.S.I.R..

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/calystegia-soldanella/>