

# Centaurea calcitrapa

## COMMON NAMES

star thistle

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink

## GENUS

Centaurea

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

Centaurea calcitrapa L.

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## FLOWERING

November, December, January, February, March, April, (May)

## FRUITING

november, december, january, february, march, april, may

## YEAR NATURALISED

1855

## ORIGIN

Mediterranean

## ETYMOLOGY

**centaurea:** From the classical name kentaurion (Greek) or centaureum (Latin) in the fables of ancient Greece, which describe the plant healing the foot of Chiron, a centaur famed for his knowledge of medicine and astronomy.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/centaurea-calcitrapa/>

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026



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