

# Centaurea nigra

## COMMON NAME

knapweed

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Centaurea nigra* L.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## NVS CODE

CENNIG

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Violet/Purple

## YEAR NATURALISED

1870

## ORIGIN

W. and C. Europe

## ETYMOLOGY

**centaurea:** From the classical name kentaursion (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.

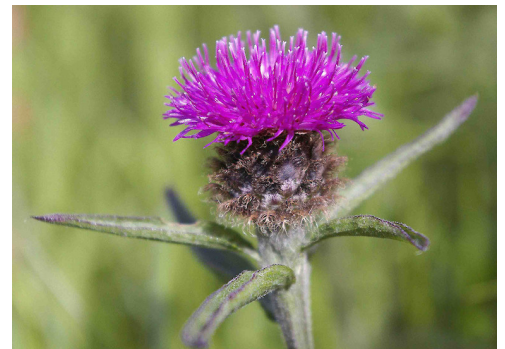
**nigra:** Black

## MORE INFORMATION

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



*Centaurea nigra*. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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