Centranthus macrosiphon

COMMON NAME
Pretty Betsy

FAMILY
Valerianaceae

AUTHORITY
Centranthus macrosiphon Boiss.

FLORA CATEGORY
Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWERING
September - December

FLOWER COLOURS
Red/Pink

FRUITING
October - January

YEAR NATURALISED
2005

ORIGIN
Europe

ETYMOLOGY
centranthus: From the Greek kentron meaning ‘spur’ and anthos meaning ‘flower’; refers to the flower having a spur-like base

Reason For Introduction
Horticultural

Life Cycle Comments
Annual

Reproduction
Exclusively by seed

Seed
Small, long-lived

Dispersal
Water, animal and gravity

Tolerances
Reasonably cold and drought tolerant

MORE INFORMATION

Centranthus macrosiphon close up of flowers, Wairere Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland. Photographer: Peter de Lange

Centranthus macrosiphon flowering plant wild in kerbside, Burch Street, Mt Albert, Auckland. Photographer: Peter de Lange