

# Clematis tibetana subsp. vernayi

## COMMON NAME

Oriental clematis

## FAMILY

Ranunculaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Clematis tibetana* subsp. *vernayi* (C.E.C.Fisch.) Grey-Wilson

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

A deciduous woody climber or scrambler with weakly ribbed cylindrical stems. Opposite leaves; hairless to sparsely hairy, and can be coated with a readily removed fine whitish bloom. Leaves are usually 8-15cm long and 7-12cm wide. Leaflets are thin, lanceolate in shape with sharply toothed margins. The leaf stalks are 4-8 cm long, hairless or with fine silky hairs present. The green-yellow flowers hang down, and occur solitary in leaf axils. The 4 conspicuous sepals are hairless on the outside but have silky hairs on the inside and dense hairs near margins; 13-19 x 5-8 mm, lanceolate in shape. Anthers are 3-4 mm long. Seed heads develop January-April, persisting through the winter as yellowish green fluffy balls. The achenes are compressed and hairy (c. 4mm long), with a 3-4.5cm long feathery style.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Do NOT confuse with *Clematis tangutica*, which has green serrate leaflets and barely spreading sepals, which are hairy on the outside and hairless within. *C. tangutica* is only known wild from near Lauder (Found cultivated in Wellington in 2004).

## FLOWERING

January, February, March

## FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

## LIFE CYCLE

Perennial

## YEAR NATURALISED

1958

## ORIGIN

NW India (N. Kashmir), W. China (Xizang and W. Gansu).

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

## ETYMOLOGY

**clematis**: From the Greek klema 'vine', alluding to the vine-like habit of many species

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/clematis-tibetana-subsp-vernayi/>

