

Convolvulus sepium subsp. roseata

COMMON NAMES

pink bindweed

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

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CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Summer-green, rhizomatous vine, all parts exuding white latex. Roots thickened, white. Stems glabrescent, purple, purple-red. Leaves membranous, dark to yellow-green 30-140(-170) x 25-90(-110) mm, usually narrowly triangular, sagittate, with or without tails, sinus deeply cleft to rounded. Flowers solitary; peduncles 30-120 mm long, glabrescent, ridged or narrowly winged. Bracts 12.5-30 x 10-15 mm, broad-ovate, base rounded or cordate, apex obtuse and mucronate. Sepals 120-150 mm, lanceolate-ovate. Corolla (30)-50(-70) mm long, limb 40-60 mm diam., pink to dark-pink with white mid-petaline bands. Stamens 20-25 mm long. Stle > stamens. Capsules papery, subglobose, c.10 mm diam. Seed triangular-ovoid, dark brown to almost black.

SIMILAR TAXA

Convolvulus silvaticus which differs by the broadly triangular-ovate, dark green leaves without sagittate tails, overlapping (imbricate) floral bracts, much larger white flowers, and wider corolla limb > (55-) 60 mm in diameter. The F1 hybrid between these two taxa have pale pink-white striped flowers

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand, Three Kings, North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands, Indigenous throughout the southern hemisphere

HABITAT

A weedy species of coastal and lowland successional habitats, which very rarely extends to montane forest. Often found along the margins of wetlands. Pink bindweed has also spread into urban areas where it can be very aggressive.

GENUS

Convolvulus

FAMILY

Convolvulaceae

AUTHORITY

Convolvulus sepium subsp. *roseata* (Brummitt) S.C.Nepom. & Buriil



Paraparaumu Beach. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 21/02/2015, Licence: CC BY.



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SYNONYMS

Calystegia subsp. *roseata* Brummitt. Has been referred to in New Zealand as *Convolvulus sepium* subsp. *sepium* - which does not occur in New Zealand at all.

TAXONOMIC NOTES

Convolvulus sepium subsp. *roseata* was first collected from New Zealand by Banks & Solander in 1769 (see the original specimens by following the Te Papa link on the left hand side of the fact sheet). Therefore it should be regarded as indigenous. Confusion with *C. sepium* L. subsp. *sepium* and its introduced status has arisen through its widespread hybridism with the introduced greater bind weed *C. silvatica* Griseb., and the apparent failure to recognise that hybrid in this country. Indeed most urban gatherings are of that hybrid. *Calystegia sepium* subsp. *roseata* and *C. silvatica* have very distinctive nrDNA ITS sequences from which the hybrid between them can easily be detected. According to the late R.K. Brummitt (*in litt.* to P.J. de Lange 2005) there is no *bona fide* *C. sepium* subsp. *sepium* in New Zealand. *Convolvulus sepium* subsp. *roseata* readily forms hybrids with *C. tuguriorum*, and, less commonly with *C. naniflorus* and *C. soldanella*.

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

September - April (-June)

FRUITING

October-August

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from seed, layered pieces and from the root stock. Very aggressive and weedy. Not suitable for cultivation

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).

ETYMOLOGY

convolvulus: From Latin convolvere, which means to twine around

NVS CODE

CALSSR

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the "Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland" Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.

Otago: 2025 | Regionally Data Deficient Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Otago conservation status information is sourced from the "Conservation Status of Indigenous Vascular Plants in Otago, 2025" Jarvie S et al. (2025) report.

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..

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.

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/convolvulus-sepium-subsp-roseata/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/convolvulus-sepium-subsp-roseata/>

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