

Cynara cardunculus

COMMON NAMES

Cardoon

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The flowers of the cardoon are thistle like with globular heads, from which mauve-purple tufts into a flat-topped inflorescence (there is also a white flowered form of *C. cardunculus*). (Ermert and Clapp 1998)

GENUS

Cynara

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Cynara cardunculus L.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

November, December, January, February, March

FRUITING

February, March

YEAR NATURALISED

1897

ORIGIN

Mediterranean

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Reproduces by seeds (the long seeds are brown or black). The seeds are large and relatively heavy, thereby making them unsuitable for spreading by wind, although they can blow along the ground. (Ermert and Clapp 1998)

ETYMOLOGY

cynara: From the Greek *kyon* 'dog', referring to the spines on the involucre suggesting a dog's teeth

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cynara-cardunculus/>

PDF DATE

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