

Datura stramonium

COMMON NAMES

thornapple

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

SIMILAR TAXA

White trumpet flowers (Landcare Research 1999).

GENUS

Datura

FAMILY

Solanaceae

AUTHORITY

Datura stramonium L.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

1867

ORIGIN

Tropical and Subtropical America

POISONOUS PLANT

The black seed and other parts of the plant contain a powerful and toxic drug.

ETYMOLOGY

datura: From the vernacular East Indian

stramonium: Old botanic Latin for 'thorn apple'

ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC. 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report [here](#).



Roadside near Manawatū River. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 06/03/2007, Licence: CC BY.



Datura stramonium. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

NVS CODE

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/datura-stramonium/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026