

# Erigeron karvinskianus

## COMMON NAME

Mexican daisy

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

Erigeron karvinskianus DC.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## NVS CODE

ERIKAR

## HABITAT

Terrestrial. Intact and disturbed bush, shrubland, tussockland, fernland, herbfield, bare land, streamsides, cliffs and bluffs, inshore and offshore islands, gumlands, consolidated sand dunes, most coastal areas, riverbeds, epiphyte niches.

## FEATURES

Sprawling perennial daisy to 40 cm tall. Roots fibrous. Stems long, thin, sparsely hairy to hairless, much-branching, rooting, sprawling, 15-70 cm long. Leaves small, narrow (upper leaves usually 3-lobed), fragrant when crushed. Flowers daisy-like, white, white-purplish or pink, central disc yellow to brownish-yellow, Jan-Dec. Fluffy seeds in profusion.

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Bellis perennis* (daisy) has nearly identical flowers, but wider leaves in a basal rosette.

## FLOWERING

September, October, November, December, January, February, March, April, May.

## FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

## YEAR NATURALISED

1940

## ORIGIN

Mexico

## ETYMOLOGY

**erigeron**: From the Greek *eri* 'early' (or ear 'spring') and *geron* 'old', possibly alluding to the hairy seed pappus, or perhaps to the hoary appearance of the leaves of some species in the spring.



Stokes Valley. Nov 2001. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe



Erigeron karvinskianus. Photographer: Richard Hursthouse

**Reason For Introduction**

Ornamental

**Life Cycle Comments**

Perennial. Herb

**Reproduction**

Reproduces by seed and occasionally layering in damp sites.

**Seed**

Flowers produce masses of fluffy seeds.

**Dispersal**

Spreads mainly by windblown seeds. Other dispersal methods include roadside mowers, machinery, gravel and water actions.

**Tolerances**

Tolerates moderate shade to full sun, damp to drought, high to low temperature and almost any surface.

**MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/erigeron-karvinskianus/>