

Erigeron karvinskianus

COMMON NAME

Mexican daisy

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Erigeron karvinskianus DC.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

ERIKAR

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

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.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

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. Fluffy seeds in profusion.

SIMILAR TAXA

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

FLOWERING

September–May.

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Reproduces by seed and occasionally layering in damp sites. Flowers produce masses of fluffy seeds. Spreads mainly by windblown seeds. Other dispersal methods include roadside mowers, machinery, gravel and water actions.

YEAR NATURALISED

1940

ORIGIN

Mexico

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

TOLERANCES

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



Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 23/11/2016, Licence: CC BY.



Erigeron karvinskianus. Photographer: Richard Hursthouse, Licence: CC BY.

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.

NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord. The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](#).

MORE INFORMATION

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