

Erythranthe moschata

COMMON NAME

musk

SYNONYMS

Mimulus moschatus Lindl.

FAMILY

Phrymaceae

AUTHORITY

Erythranthe moschata (Lindl.) G.L.Nesom

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

ERYMOS

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Sticky-hairy clumps that grow up to 10 to 40 cm tall. The leaves are pale green and small (10 to 40 mm long) with a short petiole. The yellow flowers are up to 20mm long.

DISTRIBUTION

Lower North Island and throughout the South Island, absent from Auckland and Northland.

HABITAT

Lowland to montane regions, alongside streams and rivers, in seepages and swamps.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

FEATURES

Glandular-hairy perennial herb forming sprawling mats. Leaves opposite, lanceolate to ovate up to 5 x 2.5 cm in length and width. Leaves toothed or entire with a short petiole. Flowers yellow, up to 2 cm long, with a long corolla tube, throat open with five rounded lobes. Seed capsule 5 mm long, ovoid

SIMILAR TAXA

Similar in appearance to *E. guttata* which is larger in all parts. It is not sticky-hairy perennial and has red blotches on its flowers.

FLOWERING

November to March

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

Autumn



Musk. Photographer: John Barkla



Mimulus moschatus. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth

LIFE CYCLE

Mainly seed dispersal by water movement and dumped soil.

YEAR NATURALISED

1879

ORIGIN

W. North America

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental pond and garden plant.

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Rarely problematic. Can be controlled manually, mechanically or herbicidally depending on situation.

ETYMOLOGY

moschata: Musky

ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Johnson PN, Brooke PA (1989). Wetland plants in New Zealand. DSIR Field Guide, DSIR Publishing, Wellington. 319pp.

Popay et al (2010). An illustrated guide to common weeds of New Zealand, third edition. NZ Plant Protection Society Inc, 416pp.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/erythranthe-moschata/>