Euphorbia milii var. splendens

COMMON NAMES
crown of thorns

BIOSTATUS
Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS
Not applicable

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

FLOWER COLOURS
Yellow

HABITAT
Known from one site on Rangitoto Island, where it is a minor cultivation escape.

GENUS
Euphorbia

FAMILY
Euphorbiaceae

AUTHORITY
Euphorbia milii var. splendens (Hook.) Ursh et Leandri

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

YEAR NATURALISED
1993

ORIGIN
Madagascar

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION
Horticultural

TOLERANCES
Drought tolerant. Dislikes cold, frost and snow.

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Perennial shub. In New Zealand reproduces exclusively by vegetative spread and stem disarticulation, no seed production observed. Established on Rangitoto from disarticulated stem pieces, some of which may have been deliberately discarded.

ETYMOLOGY
euphorbia: After Euphorbus, a Greek physician who served King Juba of Numidia in 12BC. Juba named a cactus to honour Euphorbus and later Linnaeus named the entire genus after the physician.
splendens: Splendid

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/euphorbia-milii-var-splendens/

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