

Geranium gardneri

COMMON NAMES

Gardner's geranium

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

SIMILAR TAXA

Geranium homeanum which differs by the larger carrot-smelling leaves with reddish undersides, less hairy stems, larger flowers, and seeds. Has been treated in New Zealand as *Geranium solanderi* "coarse hairs" but DNA places it not with the *G. solanderi* complex but with *G. potentilloides*.

HABITAT

Weed of rough pasture, road and streetside verges, derelict land, urban waste, coastal scrub and grassland.

GENUS

Geranium

FAMILY

Geraniaceae

AUTHORITY

Geranium gardneri de Lange

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

Throughout the year

FRUITING

Throughout the year

YEAR NATURALISED

c.1860

ORIGIN

Probably Australia, also established on Norfolk Island.

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Probably a seed contaminant in goods transported by shipping from Australia, as first site of introduction in New Zealand was the Port of Auckland.

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial. Plants self compatible, seeding freely. Seed dispersed by wind, ballistic projection and possibly attachment (Thorsen et al., 2009).



Geranium gardneri. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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ETYMOLOGY

geranium: From the Greek geranos 'crane', the fruit of the plant resembling the head and beak of this bird, hence the common name cranesbill.

gardneri: Commemorating the New Zealand botanist Rhys O. Gardner (1949-)

NVS CODE

GERGAR

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/geranium-gardneri/>

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