

Hydrocotyle umbellata

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, White

GENUS

Hydrocotyle

FAMILY

Araliaceae

AUTHORITY

Hydrocotyle umbellata L.

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

2005

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Vegetable (Asian salad herb)

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial herb. By seed and asexual spread from layering. Long-lived forms a large seed bank. Mainly spread by deliberate planting and subsequent vegetative spread; also through careless disposal of garden waste and by seed.

ETYMOLOGY

hydrocotyle: From the Greek hydor 'water' and cotyle 'cup', in reference to the cup-like hollow at the base of the leaf.

umbellata: Bearing flowers in umbels

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Johnson, A. T. and Smith, H. A (1986). Plant Names Simplified: Their pronunciation, derivation and meaning. Landsman Bookshop Ltd: Buckenhill, UK.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hydrocotyle-umbellata/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026



Hydrocotyle umbellata wild in coarse soil at margin of footpath and wooden fence, Asquith Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Date taken: 18/12/2006, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Hydrocotyle umbellata close up of wild plant, Asquith Ave, Mt Albert, Auckland. Photographer: Peter J de Lange, Date taken: 18/12/2006, Licence: CC BY-NC.