

# Lathyrus japonicus

## COMMON NAMES

beach pea

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Lianoid, long-creeping, rhizomatous, glabrescent (sometimes sparingly puberulent at leaf bases, stem axils and on pods), glaucescent, perennial, herb. Stems 0.2–0.6(–0.8) m long, angular, decumbent to ascending arising from long-creeping, slender rhizomes. Leaves shortly petiolate; stipulate, stipules ovate to semi-sagittate, 15–25 mm long, acute; leaflets 8–12, ovate, oblong to elliptic, 15–45(–50) × 10–30 mm, acute to obtuse, ± penninerved, tendrils simple, 2- or 3-branched. Inflorescences racemose, borne on 40–60 mm long peduncules; flowers 25–30 mm long, dark purple with darker lines on standard; calyx-teeth lanceolate, the lower as long as or greater than tube length. Fruiting pods 300–400(–500) × 10 mm, glabrous, 1–3(–6)-seeded.

## DISTRIBUTION

Exotic. New Zealand, South Island, Catlins (Lathyrus Bay)

## HABITAT

Coastal sand dunes

## GENUS

Lathyrus

## FAMILY

Fabaceae

## AUTHORITY

Lathyrus japonicus Willd.

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## ETYMOLOGY

**japonicus**: From Japan

## ATTRIBUTION

Description by Peter J. de Lange (13 June 2016)

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): Lathyrus japonicus Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lathyrus-japonicus/> (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lathyrus-japonicus/>

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