

# Medicago lupulina

## COMMON NAMES

black medick

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

## GENUS

Medicago

## FAMILY

Fabaceae

## AUTHORITY

Medicago lupulina L.

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## YEAR NATURALISED

1867

## ORIGIN

S. Europe to W. Asia, N. Africa

## ETYMOLOGY

**medicago:** Derived indirectly from the Persian name Media (an Iranian kingdom in existence from late second millennium BC to the first millennium BC), whence alfalfa allegedly originates.

## ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

**This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC.** 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report [here](#).

## NVS CODE

MEDLUP

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/medicago-lupulina/>



Infructescence. Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt.  
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