

Moraea polystachya

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Corm; stems with 3-5 linear channeled leaves; flowers larger than most in genus *Moraea*; winter flowering.

FLOWER COLOURS

Blue, Violet/Purple, Yellow

HABITAT

Garden escape in gravel driveways, paths, rockeries. First collected as adventive in 2016, but known for many years before that in one garden in Whanganui.

GENUS

Moraea

FAMILY

Iridaceae

AUTHORITY

Moraea polystachya (Thunberg) Ker

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

1990 (Eastwood Hill, Gisborne)

ORIGIN

South Africa

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

TOLERANCES

Drought tolerant

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Spreads by seed

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Seed and corms

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/moraea-polystachya/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026



Growing wild in garden, 115 Mount View Road, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 11/07/2016, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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