

Physalis peruviana

COMMON NAME

Cape gooseberry

FAMILY

Solanaceae

AUTHORITY

Physalis peruviana L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

PHYPER

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

FEATURES

Herb, grows 15-200 cm tall, densely hairy. Flowers pale yellow with patches of pale purple towards base, January-December. Fruit 10-20 mm diameter orange, sweet and enclosed in a lantern-like persistent calyx. (DoC 1998)

FLOWERING

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, Yellow

YEAR NATURALISED

1843

ORIGIN

Tropical S. America

Reason For Introduction

Agricultural

Dispersal

Animals eat & disperse seeds (Webb et al., 1988). Birds (Colin Ogle, pers. comm.).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/physalis-peruviana/>



Physalis peruviana. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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