Pinguicula grandiflora

COMMON NAME
Butterwort

FAMILY
Lentibulariaceae

AUTHORITY
Pinguicula grandiflora Lam.

FLORA CATEGORY
Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Small yellow-green coloured herb, with leaves lying close to the ground arising from a central point (like a dandelion), sticky to the touch, curled upwards at the margins, up to 8 cm long, flowers showy, purple or violet with a white mark on the throat up to 2 cm across and 3 cm long produced singly on stalk up to 20 cm long.

DISTRIBUTION
Known from one site on the Coromandel Peninsula; also in and close to Tongariro National Park.

HABITAT
Seepage and trackside drain in regenerating manuka scrub (Coromandel); peat bog with Empodisma and Gleichenia (Tongariro Nat. Park).

FEATURES
Perennial herb with all leaves forming a basal rosette, all parts (except the corolla) clothed in sticky glandular hairs adapted to ensnare insects. Overwinters as a rootless bud. Leaves entire, sessile, margins involute, 2-8 cm long, ovate-oblong, yellow-green. Flower solitary on naked scape 3-20 cm long. Calyx lobes ovate or oblong, upper lip divided nearly to base. Corolla 15-20 x 25-30 mm, violet with large cuneate white patch at the mouth, lower lip broader than long, with shallow lobes, spur 10 mm directed backwards. Capsule subglobose, not seen in New Zealand material.

SIMILAR TAXA
No other butterworts or similar plants are known to be naturalised in New Zealand.

FLOWERING
November to January

FLOWER COLOURS
Purple, White

FRUITING
N/A

LIFE CYCLE
Reproduces by clonal spread after deliberate planting.

YEAR NATURALISED
2008

ORIGIN
Western Europe

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION
Ornamental plant
CONTROL TECHNIQUES
Not controlled in New Zealand.

ETYMOLOGY
grandiflora: Large flowered

ATTRIBUTION
Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

MORE INFORMATION