

Plectranthus ecklonii

COMMON NAMES

Plectranthus

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Blue, Violet/Purple

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

An erect shrub, usually 1.5-2m high, young stems densely covered with fine hairs. Similar hairs also on leaves, especially along upper side of veins. Flowers blue-violet, borne in a loose, erect panicle about 30cm high at the top of the stems.(DOC 1998)

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

GENUS

Plectranthus

FAMILY

Lamiaceae

AUTHORITY

Plectranthus ecklonii Benth.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

December, January, February, March, April, May

YEAR NATURALISED

1978

ORIGIN

E and S Africa

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial. Mainly spreads vegetatively (Owen 1997).

ETYMOLOGY

plectranthus: From the Greek plektron (spur) and anthos (flower), referring to the spurred flowers



Plectranthus ecklonii. Photographer: Richard Hursthouse, Licence: CC BY.



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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

PLEECK

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/plectranthus-ecklonii/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026