

Puya chilensis

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Forms large clumps with dense rosettes; leaves grey-green, elongated, curved with hooked spines on margins . Yellow flowers on erect emergent spikes up to 2m tall

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

SIMILAR TAXA

Other Puya species. Many are smaller than *P. chilensis* and with pink, sea-green or blue flowers

DISTRIBUTION

Minor garden escape by seed in NZ, with some establishment by off-sets to make larger clumps.

GENUS

Puya

FAMILY

Bromeliaceae

AUTHORITY

Puya chilensis Molina

FRUITING

Dry capsules on tall branched spikes

YEAR NATURALISED

2011

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Seed or division

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/puya-chilensis/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026



Clump with dead seed-heads, in sheep-grazed paddock, near Fordell, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 04/03/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Fruiting clump in large garden, near Fordell, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 04/03/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.