

# Rumex crispus

## COMMON NAMES

curled dock, yellow dock

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

Brown, Green

## SIMILAR TAXA

Perennial with large, yellow, somewhat branched taproot, reproducing by seed. Stems smooth, erect 0.3 to 1.2 m tall, single or in groups from the root crown. Leaves mostly basal, smooth, 15 to 30 cm long, lanceolate, with wavy curled edges. Upper leaves alternate, the base of the short petiole having a papery sheath surrounding the stem. Flowers in dense clusters on branches at tip of stem, without petals, small, greenish, becoming reddish-brown at maturity. (Wax, Fawcett and Isely 1981).

## GENUS

Rumex

## FAMILY

Polygonaceae

## AUTHORITY

Rumex crispus L.

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## YEAR NATURALISED

1832

## ORIGIN

Europe, N. Africa, W. Asia

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Seeds brown, shiny, triangular, and sharp-edged, surrounded with 3 heart shaped bracts with smooth edges. greenish, becoming reddish-brown at maturity.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).

## ETYMOLOGY

**rumex:** Sorrel



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**NVS CODE**

RUMCRI

**MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/rumex-crispus/>

**PDF DATE**

25 May 2026