

Saponaria officinalis

COMMON NAMES

Soapwort

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

GENUS

Saponaria

FAMILY

Caryophyllaceae

AUTHORITY

Saponaria officinalis L.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

1904

ORIGIN

Europe

ETYMOLOGY

saponaria: New Latin, from Medieval Latin, feminine of saponarius of soap, from Latin sapon-, sapo soap + -arius -ary

officinalis: From the Latin officina shortened from opificina which originally meant 'workshop' but later came to mean a monastic storeroom, herb-room or pharmacy. Refers to the plant's real or perceived medicinal value.

MORE INFORMATION

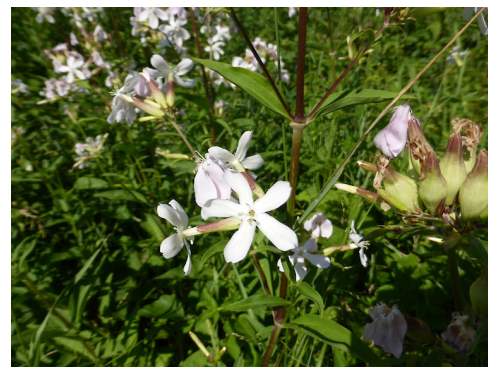
<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/saponaria-officinalis/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026



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Beside Danube River, Weltenburg, Bavaria, Germany. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 16/07/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.