

Senecio elegans

COMMON NAMES

purple groundsel

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple

GENUS

Senecio

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Senecio elegans L.

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

1935

ORIGIN

South Africa

ETYMOLOGY

senecio: From the Latin senex 'old man' (probably referring to the bearded seeds)

elegans: Elegant

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

SENELE



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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/senecio-elegans/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026