

Thymus vulgaris

COMMON NAME

culinary thyme

FAMILY

Lamiaceae

AUTHORITY

Thymus vulgaris L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

THYVUL

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Forms dominate scrub in cold dry areas

FEATURES

Small hairy shrub to about 30 cm high. Shoots and leaves densely clothed in hairs. The leaves are sessile and are up to 8 x 3 mm. The flowers are held on the ends of the stems in dense clusters, flowers range from white to mauve. The seeds are about 7 mm long and are dark brown.

SIMILAR TAXA

The stems and leaves are aromatic when crushed. *T. pulegioides* (creeping thyme) has a much more prostrate form.

FLOWERING

September, October, November, December

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

YEAR NATURALISED

1926

ORIGIN

Mediterranean

Reason For Introduction

Agricultural

Reproduction

Spreads by seed.

Seed

Many seeds are produced.

Dispersal

People, gravity, soil movement.

Tolerances

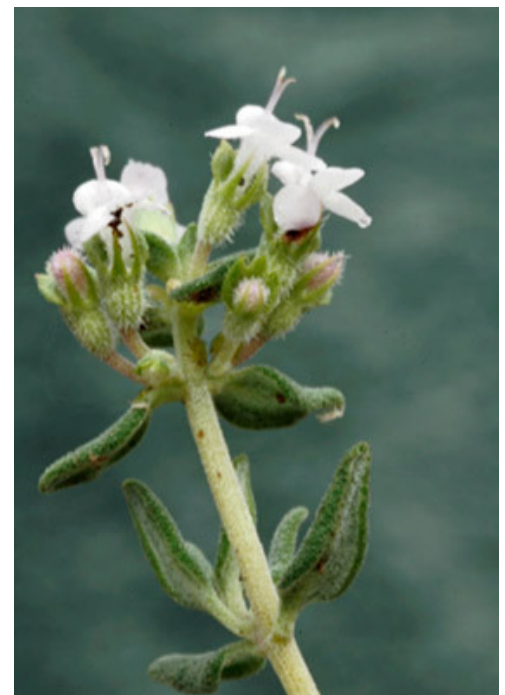
Very tolerant of cold and dry conditions.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/thymus-vulgaris/>



In cult. ex Clyde. Nov 2008. Photographer: Colin Ogle



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