

Urtica dioica subsp. dioica

COMMON NAMES

perennial nettle

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stems 0.6 to 2 m tall, slightly branched at the top, slender, rigid, square, and covered with numerous stinging hairs. Leaves dark green, coarse, opposite (7.5 to 15 cm long) pointed with saw tooth margins, sometimes rounded at the base, covered with stinging hairs. Male and female flowers borne separately but on the same plant, in axillary clusters.

HABITAT

Generally in damp rich soil. Farmland, fence rows, thickets, stockyards, waste places and roadsides.

GENUS

Urtica

FAMILY

Urticaceae

AUTHORITY

Urtica dioica L. subsp. dioica

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

1870

ORIGIN

N. temperate regions

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial. Reproduces by seed and underground rootstocks. Seed pod 1-seeded. Seeds small, egg-shaped, slightly rough, yellow to greyish-tan.

ETYMOLOGY

urtica: From the Latin verb urere which means "to burn"

dioica: Two plants

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/urtica-dioica-subsp-dioica/>



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