

Urtica urens

COMMON NAME

nettle, stinging nettle

FAMILY

Urticaceae

AUTHORITY

Urtica urens L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

URTURE

HABITAT

Common throughout New Zealand. Gardens, under trees, disturbed pasture and sheep camps.

FEATURES

Erect annual that grows to 60cm tall. Has dark green, heart-shaped leaves (to 8cm long) in opposite pairs. Stinging bristles on the leaves and stems.

FLOWER COLOURS

Green

LIFE CYCLE

Annual

YEAR NATURALISED

1846

ORIGIN

N. temperate regions

ETYMOLOGY

urtica: From the Latin verb *urere* which means “to burn”

MORE INFORMATION

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



Urtica urens. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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