

# Utricularia sandersonii

## COMMON NAME

bladderwort

## FAMILY

Lentibulariaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Utricularia sandersonii* Oliv.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Minute herb with wedge-shaped leaves around 1 cm long growing from underground parts, flower stalks much longer, usually around 10 cm long, with 1 to 4 pale mauve or white flowers with a distinct 2-lobed upper petal looking like rabbit ears to 1.5 cm long.

## DISTRIBUTION

Only known from one site on the Coromandel Peninsula.

## HABITAT

Seepage and trackside drain in regenerating manuka scrub.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small perennial, terrestrial. Rhizoids few, capillary, simple. Stolons many, up to 5.0 cm or greater long, 0.25 mm thick. Leaves numerous, lamina up to 15 × 6 mm, cuneate or obovate to flabellate, petiolate. Traps numerous on rhizoids, stolons, and leaves, 1-1.5 mm long, ovoid, stalked. Inflorescences 2-6 cm long, erect, solitary, simple; peduncle c. 0.6 mm diam., terete, glabrous. Bracts c. 1 mm long, basifixed, deltoid or oblong. Flowers 1-4, distant; pedicels 1.5-3 mm long, spreading in flower, deflexed in fruit; calyx 2 mm long; corolla 10-15 mm long, very pale mauve or white, with darker mauve markings, upper lip of corolla deeply divided with two divergent lobes, spur subulate 2-3 x longer than lower lip. Capsule c. 2 mm long, globose, dehiscing by longitudinal slits. Apparently seed is not produced in naturalised populations.

## SIMILAR TAXA

No other so-called 'terrestrial' *Utricularia* species have the distinctive two lobed upper lip of the flower.

## FLOWERING

Summer

## FLOWER COLOURS

Purple, White

## FRUITING

n/a

## LIFE CYCLE

Deliberate planting and water borne dispersal of rhizome fragments

## YEAR NATURALISED

2003

## ORIGIN

South Africa



## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental plant

## CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Not controlled in New Zealand.

## ETYMOLOGY

**utricularia:** A small bladder

## NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

**This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord.** The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](#).

## ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan, P.B.; de Lange, P.J.; Cameron, E.K.; Ogle, C.C.; Champion, P.D. (2004). Checklist of dicotyledons, gymnosperms and pteridophytes naturalised or casual in New Zealand: additional records 2001-2003. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 42: 797-814.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/utricularia-sandersonii/>