

# Verbascum blattaria

## COMMON NAMES

white mullein, moth mullein

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Herbaceous biennial. To 150cm tall. Glandular hairs on stems. Leaves are glabrous, and initially develop in a basal rosette during the first year. Then alternate, and generally lanceolate leaves, irregularly toothed or lobed, grow from the erect unbranched stems. Has a tap root with a fibrous root system. Yellow or white flowers with red-purple stamens produced on terminal racemes to >40 cm tall. Fruit a round capsule.

## HABITAT

Roadsides, waste places, old fields.

## GENUS

Verbascum

## FAMILY

Scrophulariaceae

## AUTHORITY

Verbascum blattaria L.

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## YEAR NATURALISED

1871

## ORIGIN

Europe, Asia, N. Africa

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/verbascum-blattaria/>

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026

