

Ajuga reptans

COMMON NAME

Bugle

FAMILY

Lamiaceae

AUTHORITY

Ajuga reptans L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

AJUREP

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Moist shady places.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial herb with sprawling habit and long trailing aerial stolons. Leaves up to 5 x 3 cm with wavy margins and winged petioles up to 2 cm long. Flowering stems to about 25 cm tall, usually with 6 small blue flowers. Fruit is not known from New Zealand.

SIMILAR TAXA

Ajuga can be distinguished from other Lamiaceae (mint family) by the ring of hairs inside the corolla tube and the upper lip present.

FLOWERING

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

FLOWER COLOURS

Blue

YEAR NATURALISED

1958

ORIGIN

Temperate Eurasia, N. Africa

ETYMOLOGY

ajuga: From the Greek a- 'without' or 'lacking' and zugon 'yoke', in reference to the calyx lobes being equal, not bilabiate.



Naturalised at Auckland. Jan 2007.

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Ajuga reptans. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

Reproduction

Vegetative spread via stolons.

Seed

Not known from New Zealand.

Dispersal

Humans, soil movement, water.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ajuga-reptans/>