

# Akebia quinata

## COMMON NAME

akebia

## FAMILY

Lardizabalaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Akebia quinata* (Houtt.) Decne.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

AKEQUI

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial. In the open to semi shade along forest edges or road sides, climbing over structures or trees.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

A twining vine with palmate leaves comprising of five or less leaflets that are from 35 to 75 mm long. Has chocolate-purple coloured fragrant flowers 25mm across. Purple-violet flattened sausage shape pods to 100mm. (T. McCluggage pers com)

## SIMILAR TAXA

A climber with relatively large palmately compound leaves, *Akebia quinata* is quite distinctive in New Zealand. The fragrant chocolate-purple flowers that give rise to the common name chocolate vine are produced August to October.

## FLOWERING

August, September, October

## FLOWER COLOURS

Brown, Violet/Purple

## FRUITING

February

## LIFE CYCLE

Perennial. Spreads vegetatively and by seed. Plants are almost certainly wholly or partly self-sterile. Viable seed is produced. Humans (T. McCluggage pers com)

## YEAR NATURALISED

1940

## ORIGIN

Japan, China, Korea

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental.



Male flowers. In cult. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 12/09/2009, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Horoeka Scenic Reserve, Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 02/10/2016, Licence: CC BY.

## TOLERANCES

Shade and drought tolerant. (T. McCluggage pers com)

## ETYMOLOGY

**akebia:** An adaptation of the Japanese name for these plants

**quinata:** From the Latin quinque 'five', referring to the five-lobed leaves

## 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](#).

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/akebia-quinata/>