

Amaranthus retroflexus

COMMON NAME

redroot

FAMILY

Amaranthaceae

AUTHORITY

Amaranthus retroflexus L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

AMARET

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

SIMILAR TAXA

Taproot shallow, reddish. Stems erect, up to 1.8 m high, rough, branching freely if not crowded. Leaves dull green, usually at least 15 cm long when mature, ovate to lanceolate. Flowers green small, in thick, stiff, panicle-like terminal spikes with many short crowded lateral branches. Bracts much longer than sepals and utricles. Sepals longer than utricle, curved, rounded, often with small notch at end (Wax, Fawcett and Isely 1981).

FLOWER COLOURS

Green

YEAR NATURALISED

1869

ORIGIN

Tropical America

ETYMOLOGY

amaranthus: From the Greek a- 'without' or 'lacking' and maraino 'to fade', meaning unfading and referring to the durability of the flowers of some species

Seed

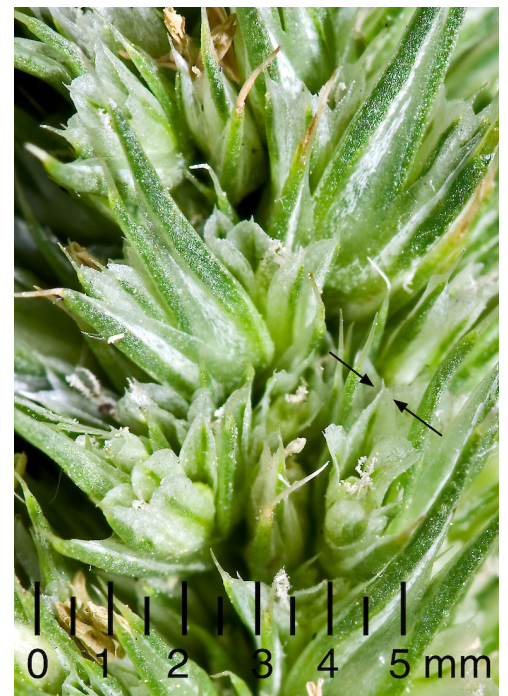
Seeds shiny black, lens-shaped, ovate, notched at the narrow end, about 1mm in diameter (Wax, Fawcett and Isely 1981).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/amaranthus-retroflexus/>



Stems densely hairy. Hutt River Trail north of Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 24/03/2007, Licence: CC BY.



Tepals cuspidate (arrowed). Hutt River Trail north of Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 24/03/2007, Licence: CC BY.