

Xanthium spinosum

COMMON NAME

Bathurst bur

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Xanthium spinosum L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

An erect, spined plant, annual, growing up to a metre. Spines on the stem are straight but those on the fruit are hooked, enabling seed dispersal in animal fur, wool etc. Leaf underside covered with dense grey-white tomentum. Can be distinguished from *X. stromarium* by the axillary spines and the short-beaked fruiting involucre.

SIMILAR TAXA

Can be distinguished from *X. stromarium* by the axillary spines and the short-beaked fruiting involucre.

FLOWERING

December, January, February, March, April

FRUITING

Dec-July

YEAR NATURALISED

1867

ORIGIN

South America

Dispersal

Animal wool, fur etc. Packs, bags, clothing and any fibrous material. Burs also float on water and are moved rapidly along watercourses.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/xanthium-spinosum/>



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