

# Saponaria officinalis

## COMMON NAME

Soapwort

## FAMILY

Caryophyllaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Saponaria officinalis* L.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## YEAR NATURALISED

1904

## ORIGIN

Europe

## ETYMOLOGY

**saponaria**: New Latin, from Medieval Latin, feminine of saponarius of soap, from Latin sapon-, sapo soap + -arius -ary

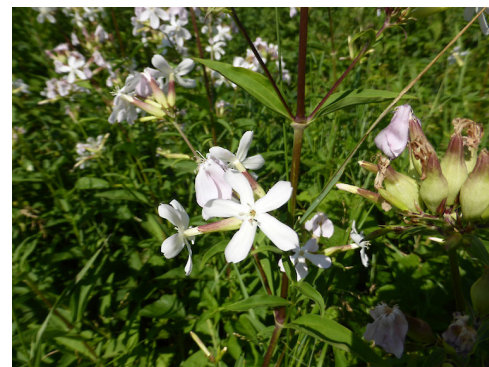
**officinalis**: From the Latin officina shortened from opificina which originally meant 'workshop' but later came to mean a monastic storeroom, herb-room or pharmacy. Refers to the plant's real or perceived medicinal value.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/saponaria-officinalis/>



Auckland. Feb 2007. Photographer: Peter J. de Lange, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Beside Danube River, Weltenburg, Bavaria, Germany. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 16/07/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.