

# Rhododendron ponticum subsp. ponticum

## COMMON NAME

rhododendron

## FAMILY

Ericaceae

## AUTHORITY

Rhododendron ponticum L. subsp. ponticum

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

RHOPON

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Large evergreen shrub to 6 m high with light lilac-pink to pinkish purple flowers and dark green leaves. Can set down roots from its branches.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Rhododendron ponticum is the only rhododendron in NZ to sucker (i.e., sets down roots from its branches).

## FLOWERING

October, November, December

## FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple

## YEAR NATURALISED

1958

## ORIGIN

SE Europe, Asia minor

## Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

## Life Cycle Comments

Perennial. 12 years before seeding but prolific annual seed. Dark dense canopy. Outbreeder (Melanie Newfield, 1996)

## Reproduction

seed and vegetatively by suckering.

## Tolerances

Grows 0-1800m in the Mediterranean (Owen 1997).

Poisonous plant:

All rhododendrons are poisonous.

## MORE INFORMATION



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