

Persicaria strigosa

BIOSTATUS

Exotic

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Prickly scrambling herb, either forming dense patches or scrambling through other vegetation, leaves mostly triangular in outline with backward pointing lobes, small (2 to 3 mm long) pink flowers in open branched flowerheads at the top of stem.

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Annual herb; stems to > 50 cm long, lax or sprawling, with numerous deflexed scabrid bristles to c. 1 mm long; roots slender. Lvs \pm similar; petiole to 1 cm long, filiform, scabrid. Lamina 3-7 \times 0.5-1.2 cm, linear-lanceolate; midrib below with scattered bristles; margin ciliolate, entire; base \pm hastate or sagittate; apex obtuse or subacute. Ochreae usually 1-1.5 cm long, glabrous, soon brown and papery; apex truncate. Racemes terminal or in axils of upper lvs, to 12 cm long, very slender; fls few, distant. Peduncles dichotomous, conspicuously glandular-hairy, > lvs; pedicels very short, hidden by sheathing, glabrous or glabrate bracts until after anthesis. Perianth 2-3 mm long, accrescent, pink; segments \pm broadly ovate-elliptic, imbricate and remaining almost closed, eglandular. Nut 2-2.5 mm long (including short beak), broad-ovoid or ellipsoid, brown, shining.

SIMILAR TAXA

Unlike any other willow weed, with prickly stems and leaves and the sprawling growth habit.

DISTRIBUTION

Northland to northern Waikato.

HABITAT

Swamp and water body margins.

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

DETAILED TAXONOMY

FAMILY

Polygonaceae

AUTHORITY

Persicaria strigosa (R.Br.) H. Gross

SYNONYMS

Polygonum strigosum R.Br.

ECOLOGY



Persicaria strigosa - Whangamarino Wetland, Waikato. Photographer: Mike Wilcox, Date taken: 28/02/2010, Licence: All rights reserved.



Persicaria strigosa - Whangamarino Wetland, Waikato. Photographer: Mike Wilcox, Date taken: 28/02/2010, Licence: All rights reserved.

FLOWERING

January to February

FRUITING

Autumn

YEAR NATURALISED

1976

ORIGIN

Eastern Australia

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Unknown, seed or soil contaminant.

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Not controlled in New Zealand.

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Seed dispersed by water, animals or contaminated machinery.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACW: Facultative Wetland

Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands (non-wetlands).

OTHER INFORMATION

ETYMOLOGY

persicaria: Medieval name referring to the likeness of the leaves to a peach tree

NVS CODE

PERSTR

REFERENCING AND CITATIONS

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Johnson PN, Brooke PA (1989). Wetland plants in New Zealand. DSIR Field Guide, DSIR Publishing, Wellington. 319pp.

Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. (1988). Flora of New Zealand Volume 4: Naturalised pteridophytes, gymnosperms, dicotyledons. Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch.

ATTRIBUTION

Prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA). Features description from Webb et al. (1988).

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/persicaria-strigosa/>

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