Oxalis hirta

COMMON NAMES
hairy oxalis

BIOSTATUS
Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS
Not applicable

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION
Branching aerial stems, hairy, with sessile trifoliate leaves; flowers on long peduncles; bulb to 25 mm diameter.

FLOWER COLOURS
Red/Pink

GENUS
Oxalis

FAMILY
Oxalidaceae

AUTHORITY
Oxalis hirta L.

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

YEAR NATURALISED
1899

ORIGIN
South Africa

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION
Prbably ornamental

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Perhaps by bulbs only, in New Zealand - dispersed in garden soil

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Bulbs

ETYMOLOGY
oxalis: From the Greek word oxus meaning acid or sharp

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/oxalis-hirta/

PDF DATE
27 August 2026

Rescued from a limestone rockery in a neglected garden in Whanganui. Probably not adventive, as it appears to be still where it was planted. Stems thread-like, pubescent, leaves trifoliate, sessile. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 13/03/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.

In limestone rockery, scrambling through massed Mexican daisy and black-eyed Susan. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 23/03/2022, Licence: Public domain.