

# Centaurea melitensis

## COMMON NAME

Malta thistle

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Centaurea melitensis* L.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

## YEAR NATURALISED

1891

## ORIGIN

S. Europe

## ETYMOLOGY

**centaurea:** From the classical name kentauration (Greek) or centaureum (Latin) in the fables of ancient Greece, which describe the plant healing the foot of Chiron, a centaur famed for his knowledge of medicine and astronomy.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/centaurea-melitensis/>

