

Erigeron sumatrensis

COMMON NAMES

broad-leaved flea-bane

SYNONYMS

Conyza albida (Willdenow), *Conyza sumatrensis* (Retz.) E.H.Walker

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Erigeron sumatrensis Retz.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

CONSUM

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

The plant has a branched hairy flower stalk 30 to 60 cm high, with leaves tapering to both ends (Hilgendorf 1926). The plant has numerous dingy cream heads 0.5 cm in diameter, with red-purple tinge.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

SIMILAR TAXA

Erigeron bonariensis is easily distinguished from the other common weedy *Erigeron* spp. by its narrow leaves, usually twisted and with wavy or undulate margins and by its larger flower heads (capitula). *E. bilbaoanus* has its bracts around each capitulum (the involucre bracts) much less hairy than those of *E. bonariensis* and *E. sumatrensis*, the latter two being distinguished most readily by the twisted vs flat leaves.

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

YEAR NATURALISED

1957

ORIGIN

Subtropical S. America. Also known in New Zealand as *Conyza albida* Spreng.

ETYMOLOGY

erigeron: From the Greek eri 'early' (or ear 'spring') and geron 'old', possibly alluding to the hairy seed pappus, or perhaps to the hoary appearance of the leaves of some species in the spring.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/erigeron-sumatrensis/>



Hutt River north of Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt.
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Erigeron sumatrensis stem and leaves. Hutt River north of Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 16/04/2006, Licence: CC BY.