

Dipsacus fullonum

COMMON NAME

wild teasel

SYNONYMS

Dipsacus sylvestris Huds.

FAMILY

Dipsacaceae

AUTHORITY

Dipsacus fullonum L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

DIPSYL

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

SIMILAR TAXA

Wild teasel grows to about 1.8 m with elongated dark green leaves and a white midrib. These are joined tightly at the stem opposite to another leaf. The base of the stem itself is square and ridged with spines running along the length but these are particularly noticeable towards the flower head. The seed head is almost conical with sharp spines covering the entire flower surface. These are pale green and they turn wheat brown as the head dies and dries. The narrow and tapering bracts curve around the oval seed head. Small violet-pink flowers appear between the curved bracts in mid to late summer. (Ermert and Clapp 1998)

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, Violet/Purple

YEAR NATURALISED

1878

ORIGIN

S., W., and C. Europe, to Ukraine and Iran

Reproduction

Wild teasel self-seeds quite freely.

Dispersal

Wind.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/dipsacus-fullonum/>



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