

Euphorbia lathyris

COMMON NAMES

caper spurge

SYNONYMS

Euphorbia lathyris L.

FAMILY

Euphorbiaceae

AUTHORITY

Euphorbia lathyris L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

EUPLAT

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

A hairless, bluish-green biennial plant growing to a height of 1 - 1.5 metres.

FLOWERING

Summer months

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

YEAR NATURALISED

1870

ORIGIN

E. and C. Mediterranean but widely naturalised in Western Europe.

ETYMOLOGY

euphorbia: After Euphorbus, a Greek physician who served King Juba of Numidia in 12BC. Juba named a cactus to honour Euphorbus and later Linnaeus named the entire genus after the physician.

POISONOUS PLANT

All species of Euphorbia are poisonous especially this which can cause blindness in people removing it by hand from the garden and then rubbing their eyes.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/euphorbia-lathyris/>

PDF DATE

17 September 2024



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