



Calystegia marginata

Common Name(s):

small-flowered white bindweed

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

Distribution:

Indigenous. North Island from Te Pahi to Manukau in the West and Cuvier Island in the east. There are historic records from near Thames. Present in Eastern Australia.

Habitat:

Primarily coastal but also found in lowland areas. Prefers open shrublands, rough pasture or bracken dominated sites, usually on coastal headlands, but also on road sides, along railway embankments and in rough pasture and lawns.

Features*:

Glabrous perennial vine with creeping rhizome and slender twinning or prostrate stems (when prostrate these root freely at the nodes). Petioles slender (20-)50(-55) x 0.5-1 mm. Lamina bright green, 25-80 x 15-45 mm, sagittae, usually narrowly triangular (rarely broadly so); apex acute to acuminate; basal lobes acute, usually distinctly toothed (resembling a fish tail); basal sinus broad and rounded. Flowers usually solitary; peduncles 10-25 mm long, narrowly winged. Bracts broad-ovate, obtuse. 10 mm long. Sepals broad-ovate, < bracts, obtuse. Corolla 15 x 12 mm, white, campanulate. Capsule 6 mm diam., globose. Seeds black, reticulately ribbed, ribs protruberant.

Flowering:

Present throughout the year but peaking in spring and summer

Fruiting:

Present throughout the year

Threats:

Ignorance seems to be the main threat. Because it is frequently mistaken as a convolvulus, it is sprayed. Also its preference for successional habitats and along road margins tend to make it especially vulnerable to routine, roadside weed spraying. Despite this problem there is some field evidence to suggest it is actually increasing its range. Plants have even been found in urban areas such as Whangarei and Auckland, in situations where the species had not previously been known.

*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 November 2005. Description adapted from Allan (1961) and Webb et al. (1988), supplemented with observations made from fresh and dried material.

References and further reading:

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Wellington, Government Printer.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285-309

Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. 1988: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. Naturalised Pteridophytes, Gymnosperms, Dicotyledons. Christchurch, New Zealand, Botany Division, D.S.I.R..

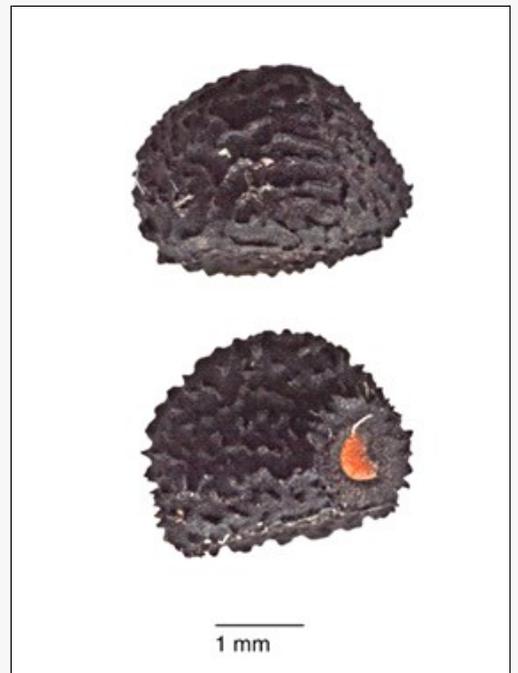
For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=229



Caption: *Calystegia marginata* on roadside adjacent to Whangaroa Harbour

Photographer: Bill Campbell



Caption: Seed. In cultivation. Jul 2007.

Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe