



## *Agave americana*

### **Common Name(s):**

century plant

### **Current Threat Status (2009):**

Exotic

### **Habitat:**

Terrestrial. Thrives in dry conditions, coastal cliffs, sand dunes.

### **Features:**

Very large perennial plant with rosette growth form. The leaves are up to 2 m long, are fleshy and triangular in cross section. The leaves are leathery, glaucous and have coarse teeth on the margins. Leaves are usually dull green, although a variegated form is also present. After 10 to 15 years vegetative growth it produces a large woody spike (scape) up to 10 m tall with a terminal panicle of many yellow flowers. Black seeds are produced in 5 cm long capsules.

### **Flowering:**

February, March.

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=2453](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=2453)



**Caption:** Kaitoke Lake, Wanganui.  
Apr 2007.

**Photographer:** Colin Ogle



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