



Lepidium ruderale

Common Name(s):

roadside pepperweed, stink cress, narrow-leaved cress

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Distribution:

Exotic. Known in New Zealand from a few sites in Central Otago and from Invercargill, South Island

Habitat:

A weedy plant of roadsides and urban wasteland

Features:

Herbs annual or biennial, (50-)100-350(-550) mm tall, fetid, puberulent with terete papillate trichomes. Stems erect or ascending, branched above. Basal leaves with petioles 10-30 mm; leaf blade (1 or)2- or 3-pinnatisect, (15-)30-50(-60) × (5-)7-2(-25) mm, glabrous except for ciliate margin; ultimate lobes oblong, entire or rarely toothed, acute. Upper cauline leaves sessile; leaf blade linear, (4-)10-20(-30) × (0.3-)0.5-2.5(-3.5) mm, sparsely pubescent, base cuneate, not auriculate, margin usually entire, ciliate, apex obtuse to subacute. Fruiting pedicels slender, divaricate, straight or slightly curved, (1.5-)2.0-4.0(-5.0) mm, puberulent all around. Sepals oblong, 0.5-0.9(-1.0) × 0.2-0.4 mm, puberulent with papillate trichomes, margin and apex white. Petals absent, sometimes rudimentary and to 0.4 mm. Stamens 2; filaments 0.7-0.8 mm; anthers ovate, 0.1-0.2 mm. Fruit broadly elliptic, (1.5-)1.8-2.5(-3.0) × 1.5-2.0(-2.3) mm, narrowly winged apically; apical notch 0.1-0.2 mm; style to 0.1 mm, included in apical notch. Seeds brown, oblong or ovate-oblong, 1.0-1.5 × 0.6-0.7 mm, wingless, finely papillate.

Flowering:

May-July

Fruiting:

May-July

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3397