



Arum italicum

Common Name(s):

Italian arum

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Heavily disturbed shrubland and forest, herbfield, damp areas with low cover, regenerating ex-pasture.

Features:

Tuberous, clump-forming perennial 25-60 cm tall. Main tuber 4 cm diameter, many small tubers attached. Leaves up to 30 cm long, arrow shaped (young leaves thinner), glossy, dark-green with creamy midrib and main veins, purple-tinged, present from Autumn to Spring. Flower a yellow spike, surrounded by a 30 x 15 cm, pale green translucent bract. Berries 1 cm, orange or red, on flower stalk after leaves die back.

Flowering:

October, November

Fruiting:

November, December

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3473



Caption: Near-ripe fruit; Forres St walkway, Whanganui

Photographer: Colin Ogle



Caption: Ripe and near-ripe fruit; Forres St walkway, Whanganui

Photographer: Colin Ogle