



Cirsium vulgare

Common Name(s):

Scotch thistle

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Terrestrial. Relatively open conditions are required for germination and establishment (West, 1996). Wasteland, roadsides, pastures, gardens, cultivated land, disturbed forest (Webb et al., 1988). Track edges, slips, barer ridges, under light gaps in the forest (West, 1996).

Features:

Taprooted biennial 50-150cm tall; stems branched and covered in fine cobweb-like hairs; prickles pale 4-10mm long; purple flowers 28-33mm long (Webb et al., 1988). The flowers are clustered at the end of the stem and the numerous wind-dispersed seeds (West, 1996).

Flowering:

November, December, January, February, March

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3706



Caption: *Cirsium vulgare*
Photographer: John Sawyer



Caption: Seed heads. Lake Waikato,
near Waverley, Taranaki. Mar 2013.
Photographer: Robyn Ogle