



Hibiscus trionum

Common Name(s):

bladder hibiscus

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Habitat:

Most collections come from urban or formerly urban situations. The earliest collections come from Reef Point and were gathered between 1897, when that area was a thriving gum digging settlement. Some modern gatherings come from indigenous habitats, but these are usually near old camp sites or picnic spots.

Features*:

Annual to short-lived perennial herb up to 0.8 m tall. Stems densely clothed in stellate hairs when young becoming glabrescent with age. Lower leaves glabrescent, suborbicular, entire to coarsely serrated, stem leaves green at first becoming purple-red with age, palmately 3-5-lobed, 20-80 mm long, somewhat hairy, segments deeply and coarsely lobed or serrated. Flowers solitary and axillary, often with 1-3 flowers pseudoterminal; epicalyx segments (8-)10-13, free to near base, linear-lanceolate, calyx campanulate; calyx teeth ovate-triangular, somewhat < tube in length. Petals 20-30 mm long, pale yellow to yellow, basally marked dark brown, purple-red or maroon. Capsule long persistent, with papery calyx. Seeds 2-2.5 mm, papillate

Flowering:

October - May

Fruiting:

May be present all year

*Attribution:

Description based on Craven et al. (2011). Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (September 2010)

References and further reading:

Craven, L.A.; de Lange, P.J.; Lally, T.R.; Murray, B.G.; Johnson, S.B. 2011. The indigenous Australasian bladder ketmia species (*Hibiscus trionum* complex, Malvaceae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 49: 27-40.

de Lange, P.J.; Heenan, P.B.; Norton, D.A.; Rolfe, J.R.; Sawyer, J.W.D. 2010: Threatened Plants of New Zealand. Christchurch, Canterbury University Press. 471pp.

Johnson, A. T. and Smith, H. A (1986). Plant Names Simplified: Their pronunciation, derivation and meaning. Landsman Bookshop Ltd: Buckenhill, UK.

Murray, B.G.; Craven, L.A.; de Lange, P.J. 2008: New observations on chromosome number variation in *Hibiscus trionum* s.l. (Malvaceae) and their implications for systematics and conservation. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 46: 315-319.

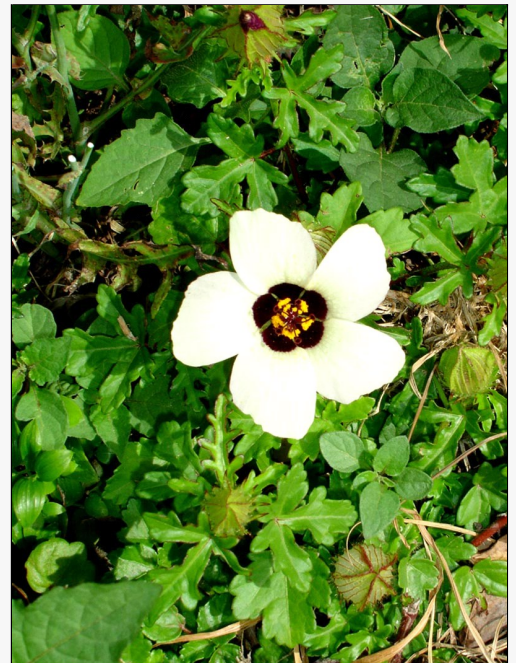
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Caption: *Hibiscus trionum*

Photographer: Peter de Lange



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