



Wurmbea stricta

Distribution:

Local garden escape (e.g. into gravel driveway)

Habitat:

Is said to prefer wet sites though grows in gravel over hard clay pan (seasonally wet) in New Zealand.

Features*:

Wurmbea stricta is a deciduous, winter-growing geophyte reaching up to 0.6 m high. The subterranean storage organ is a deep-seated, irregularly shaped corm surrounded by dark brown membranous outer tunics, and produces three narrow, very straight, erect or suberect, dark green leaves that resemble knitting needles. Its striking star-shaped flowers are produced alternately along an elongated spike, the tepals varying in colour from pure white to pale pink. Each tepal has a small claw at the base and two prominent, deep pink glands that produce nectar. Vast quantities of seed are produced in attractive erect, narrowly egg-shaped capsules.

<http://www.plantzafrika.com/plantwxyz/wurmbeastricta.htm>

***Attribution:**

Fact sheet prepared by Colin Ogle for NZPCN, 5 November 2015

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=7670



Caption: *Wurmbea stricta* (ex. *Onixotis*, *Dipidax*) flower; 115 Mt View Rd, Whanganui

Photographer: Colin Ogle



Caption: *Wurmbea stricta* (ex. *Onixotis*, *Dipidax*) young fruit; 115 Mt View Rd, Whanganui

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