



Picris burbridgeae

Common Name(s):

Native Oxtongue

Current Threat Status (2012):

Threatened - Nationally Endangered

Distribution:

Indigenous. In New Zealand known only from the northern North Island (from Te Pahi to the Huntly Basin, near Waihi and Rotorua Lakes area), as well as most of the Hauraki Gulf islands. Also known from the Three Kings, and the main Chatham Island. Present in eastern Australia and on Norfolk Island, and the main island of Hawaii

Habitat:

Primarily on offshore islands or in coastal or lowland situations. Often on talus slopes. This species requires open ground and will not tolerate heavy shade. It has been collected from gravelled margins of roadsides and in gravel pits.

Features*:

Annual to perennial herb 0.5-1.2(-2) m tall. Stem basally woody, dark green to purple-green, branched from upper 1/2 to 1/3. Indumentum of 2-hooked, bristly hairs, copious. Leaves yellow-green. Rosette leaves shortly petiolate, lamina 100-200 x 10-25 mm, narrowly lanceolate to ovate, entire or dentate; stem leaves lanceolate to narrowly lanceolate, entire or dentate, becoming smaller toward plant apex. Lower stem leaves 100-200 x 10-25 mm, upper 20-40 x 0.3-0.5 mm, terminal leaves bract or thread-like. Inflorescences in corymbose panicles. Capitula numerous, 9-12 mm long, 5-6 mm diam. Involucrum of 28-40 bracts in 3-4 irregular outer and 2 inner rows, length of bracts increasing from outer to inner rows. Bracts with a single line of 2-hooked anchor or bifid hairs along midrib on outer surface. Capitula with 30-45 sulphur yellow flowers. Achenes narrowly fusiform 4-5 mm long, 0.8-1.1 mm diam, tapering into short cusps. Achene ribs 20-35. Pappus 5-8 mm long, pappus rays 50-80.

Flowering:

(July-) October - January
(-May)

Fruiting:

(August-) October (-
June)

Threats:

Habitat loss through coastal development, succession, displacement by weed invasion, it is also prone to accidental eradication because of its weedy appearance.

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2009). Description based on Holzapfel & Lack (1993) and fresh specimens. Description subsequently published in de Lange et al (2010).

References and further reading:

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

Holzapfel, S.; Lack, H. W. 1993: New species of *Picris* (Asteraceae, Lactuceae) from Australia. *Willdenowia* 23: 181-191.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=85



Caption: *Picris burbridgeae*

Photographer: Peter de Lange



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