

Carpobrotus chilensis

COMMON NAME

Ice plant

SYNONYMS

C. aequilaterus (Willd.) J.M.Black

FAMILY

Aizoaceae

AUTHORITY

Carpobrotus chilensis (Molina) N.E.Brown

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Coastal

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Mat-forming trailing perennial herb. Stems to about 6 m long, occasionally rooting, subwoody at base. Leaves sharply 3-angled. Flowers 6.5-8 cm diameter, petals purple. Seeds brown about 1mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

Very similar to *C. edulis* but can easily be distinguished when flowering. *C. chilensis* has smaller purple flowers. In New Zealand *C. chilensis* has usually be referred to *C. aequilaterus* (Willd.) J.M.Black, a very different looking western Australian endemic.

FLOWERING

October, November, December

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple

YEAR NATURALISED

1969

ORIGIN

California, Chile

ETYMOLOGY

carpobrotus: From the Greek karpos 'fruit' and brotus 'edible', the fruits of some species being edible.

Reason For Introduction

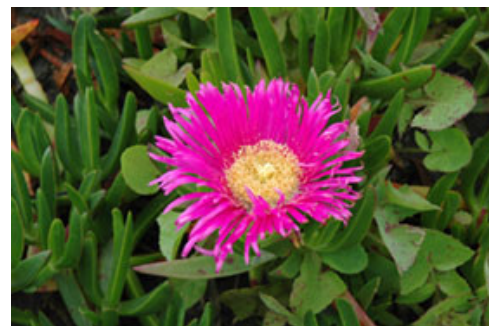
Ornamental

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/carpobrotus-chilensis/>



Turakina. Nov 2006. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Turakina. Nov 2006. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Licence: CC BY-NC.