

Amaranthus albus

COMMON NAME

tumbleweed amaranth

FAMILY

Amaranthaceae

AUTHORITY

Amaranthus albus L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

SIMILAR TAXA

Stem, pale green, with numerous ascending branches making more or less globular plant, 30 to 90 cm tall. Breaks off at ground level at maturity and is rolled over open fields by wind, distributing the seeds. Leaves spatulate, short-petioled 1.3 to 2.5 cm long. Flowers small, greenish, in axillary clusters (Wax, Fawcett and Isely 1981).

YEAR NATURALISED

1875

ORIGIN

N. America

ETYMOLOGY

amaranthus: From the Greek a- 'without' or 'lacking' and maraino 'to fade', meaning unfading and referring to the durability of the flowers of some species

albus: From the Latin albus 'white'

Reproduction

seed

Seed

Seed small round, shiny, black, each contained in a bladderlike hull (Wax, Fawcett and Isely 1981).

Dispersal

wind

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/amaranthus-albus/>

