

Arisarum vulgare

COMMON NAME

friar's cowl

FAMILY

Araceae

AUTHORITY

Arisarum vulgare Targ.Tozz.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

DISTRIBUTION

A few widely scattered collections from NZ. First collected as a garden escape in Auckland in 2004, although there are much earlier (1950s) herbarium specimens of it in the Auckland Museum herbarium, which may be wild gatherings though the label information is unclear.

HABITAT

Urban weed, spreading in and near gardens.

FLOWERING

April - August

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Violet/Purple

FRUITING

July - January

LIFE CYCLE

Seed; tubers; colony expansion

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Vegetative extension of established plants, but seeds freely at times (see photos attached here); probably also spreads from dumped tubers in garden waste.

YEAR NATURALISED

2004 (but see note above)

ORIGIN

Mediterranean

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

ETYMOLOGY

arisarum: Possible from the Greek arista 'bristle' or 'awn' and arum, to which the genus is allied, referring to spathe of flower having a spike.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/arisarum-vulgare/>



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