

# Choisya ternata

## COMMON NAME

Mexican orange blossom

## FAMILY

Rutaceae

## AUTHORITY

Choisya ternata Kunth

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Compact suckering shrub; dark-green trifoliate leaves in opposite pairs, fragrant when crushed; flowers 5-petaled, white, fragrant. Suckers can extend beyond planted specimens (e.g. under paths) and may be long-persistent in gardens after shrubs are removed.

## HABITAT

Prefers well-drained sunny sites. Withstands light frost.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

‘The flowers are star-shaped, 3–5 cm (1.2–2.0 in) diameter, with 4-7 white petals [mostly 5], 8-15 stamens and a green stigma; they are produced throughout the late spring and summer. The fruit is a leathery two to six sectioned capsule.’ Wikipedia

## FLOWERING

Spring and early summer

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Root divisions

## YEAR NATURALISED

2002

## ORIGIN

Mexico

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

## ETYMOLOGY

**ternata**: Triplets

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/choisya-ternata/>

