

Hieracium pollichiae

COMMON NAME

spotted hawkweed

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Hieracium pollichiae Sch.Bip.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

HIEPOL

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Under *Nothofagus* and *Kunzea* forest and exotic conifer plantations (Webb et al 1988).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial herb 15-30 cm tall. Leaves mostly basal, dull green with conspicuous purple streaks above, pale and often purplish below, 5-12 by 2-3.5 cm. Bright yellow flowers in clusters of 3-5.

SIMILAR TAXA

H. pollichiae is distinguished from all other *Hieracium* species in NZ by the purple streaked leaves.

FLOWERING

December, January, February, March

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

December - March

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial.

YEAR NATURALISED

1988

ORIGIN

Europe

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Accidental

ETYMOLOGY

hieracium: From the Greek hierax 'hawk'. Pliny the Elder (AD 23 - AD 79) believed the plant to be eaten by hawks to improve their eyesight.



Mt Isobel, Hanmer Springs. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 20/11/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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NATIONAL PEST PLANT ACCORD SPECIES

This plant is listed in the 2020 National Pest Plant Accord. The National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA) is an agreement to prevent the sale and/or distribution of specified pest plants where either formal or casual horticultural trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant in New Zealand. For up to date information and an electronic copy of the 2020 Pest Plant Accord manual (including plant information and images) visit the [MPI website](#).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Johnson, A. T. and Smith, H. A (1986). Plant Names Simplified: Their pronunciation, derivation and meaning. Landsman Bookshop Ltd: Buckenhill, UK.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hieracium-pollichiae/>