

Inula helenium

COMMON NAME

Elecampane

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Inula helenium L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

FLOWERING

November, December, January

YEAR NATURALISED

1958

ORIGIN

W. and C. Asia

ETYMOLOGY

inula: Believed to be a corruption of helenium, *Inula helenium* (Elecampane) being the *Inula campana* of medieval Latin (Johnson and Smith, 1986).

helenium: Named after the genus *Helenium* which it resembles. *Helenium* is possibly named after Helen of Troy because of a myth describing these flowers springing up from her tears.

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/inula-helenium/>



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