

Lysimachia nummularia

COMMON NAME

Creeping Jenny

FAMILY

Primulaceae

AUTHORITY

Lysimachia nummularia L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

LYSNUM

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Creeping herb, with crowded paired round leaves along horizontal creeping stems, rooting where leaf bearing stems touch the soil, flowers yellow, up to 2.5 cm across.

DISTRIBUTION

Scattered distribution, recorded from the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Westland.

HABITAT

Damp places such, as river banks and low-lying pastures.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Glabrous, evergreen herb with creeping aerial stems, rooting at nodes. Lvs opposite, shortly petiolate. Lamina 1-2.5 × 1-2.5 cm, orbicular to subreniform, glandular-punctate, entire; base rounded to subcordate; apex rounded or shallowly emarginate. Fls solitary in the axils; bracts 0. Pedicels 1.5-2 cm long, glabrous. Calyx 7-8 mm long, glandular-punctate; lobes ovate or triangular-ovate, cordate at base, short-acuminate at apex. Corolla limb 2-2.5 cm diam., yellow, minutely glandular-ciliate; lobes c. 1.5 cm long, ± obovate, rounded. Stamens 4-5 mm long; filaments united at base, glandular-scaly. Style almost = or slightly > stamens, scarcely glandular-scaly. Capsule not seen.

SIMILAR TAXA

No other creeping, opposite orbicular leaved and yellow flowered wetland plant.

FLOWERING

November to April

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

None

LIFE CYCLE

Apparently no seed set in New Zealand, dispersal by stem fragments spread by water movement, deliberate planting or garden discards.

YEAR NATURALISED

1907



ORIGIN

Europe

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental plant

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Not controlled in New Zealand.

ETYMOLOGY

nummularia: Coin bearer

ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA). Features description from Webb et al. (1988).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. (1988). Flora of New Zealand Volume 4: Naturalised pteridophytes, gymnosperms, dicotyledons. Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch.

Clapham, A.R.; Tutin, T.G.; Warburg, E.F. (1962). Flora of the British Isles. Cambridge University Press, Second Edition. 1269pp.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/lysimachia-nummularia/>