

Moraea huttonii

COMMON NAME

butterfly iris

SYNONYMS

Dietes huttonii; *Moraea baurii*; *Moraea rivularis*

FAMILY

Iridaceae

AUTHORITY

Moraea huttonii (Baker) Oberm.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Evergreen perennial, with corms; leaves 60-120 cm, somewhat lax, undersurfaces dull, slightly grey-green and different from the shiny green of upper surfaces, marked mid-rib, leaf edges slightly rolled; flower stems erect, branched. The flowers are iris-like, yellow, with three larger outer petals with brown 'eyes' and nectar guides, and three smaller upright inner petals. Dry capsules shed winged seeds that disperse by wind or water.

FLOWERING

Oct-Nov (in NZ)

FLOWER COLOURS

Brown, Yellow

FRUITING

Capsules with winged seeds

LIFE CYCLE

Self-established seedlings in driveway, up to 13 m from solitary planted specimen (Whanganui, Dec 2018)

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Seed or division

YEAR NATURALISED

2018

ORIGIN

South Africa

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/moraea-huttonii/>



Ripe dehiscing capsule, Garden plant, Virginia Heights, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 16/12/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Ripe dehiscing capsule, garden plant, Virginia Heights, Whanganui. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 16/12/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.