

Taraxacum officinale agg.

COMMON NAME

dandelion

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Taraxacum officinale F.H.Wigg. agg.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

NVS CODE

TAROFF

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

A very common herb of grassland, cultivated ground, and lawns.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Dandelion typically forms a prostrate to mounding rosette, and usually wider than tall. Foliage is dark green, deeply lobed, and hairless. Each flower head is composed of many small yellow ray flowers. Seed are attached to a pappus which facilitates wind dispersal.

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

YEAR NATURALISED

1852

ORIGIN

Europe

ETYMOLOGY

taraxacum: From the Greek 'taraxos' (disorder), and 'akos' (remedy), referring to medical qualities.

officinale: From the Latin officina shortened from opificina which originally meant 'workshop' but later came to mean a monastic storeroom, herb-room or pharmacy. Refers to the plant's medicinal value.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/taraxacum-officinale-agg/>



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