

Tradescantia cerinthoides

COMMON NAME

moss inch plant

SYNONYMS

Tradescantia blossfeldiana

FAMILY

Commelinaceae

AUTHORITY

Tradescantia cerinthoides Kunth

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Cultivation escape. Often found near houses or close to sites of former habitation. A frequent roadside weed, often found in or near illegal garden waste dumps. Does well on dry rock faces especially on lava. Can be common along coastal cliffs

FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple, White

FRUITING

Seedlings found self-establishing in a Whanganui garden in 2018, though before that, most dispersal had been assumed to be from plant fragments.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy - pieces of stem root freely.

YEAR NATURALISED

1985

ORIGIN

Brazil, Uruguay, N Argentina (Wikipedia)

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Horticultural.

LIFE CYCLE COMMENTS

Herbaceous perennial. Mostly asexual spread (can be rather slow to establish). Seedlings found self-establishing in a Whanganui garden in 2018. Plant is usually dispersed through careless disposal of garden waste.

TOLERANCES

Drought and cold tolerant once established. Can tolerate heavy shade and full sun.



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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/tradescantia-cerinthoides/>