

# Veronica officinalis

## COMMON NAME

common speedwell

## FAMILY

Plantaginaceae

## AUTHORITY

Veronica officinalis L.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## FLOWER COLOURS

Violet/Purple

## ETYMOLOGY

**veronica:** Named after Saint Veronica, who gave Jesus her veil to wipe his brow as he carried the cross through Jerusalem, perhaps because the common name of this plant is 'speedwell'. The name Veronica is often believed to derive from the Latin vera 'truth' and iconica 'image', but it is actually derived from the Macedonian name Berenice which means 'bearer of victory'.

**officinalis:** 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 real or perceived medicinal value.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/veronica-officinalis/>



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