



Lotus pedunculatus

Common Name(s):

lotus

Current Threat Status (2009):

Exotic

Distribution:

Common in higher rainfall areas throughout New Zealand.

Habitat:

Terrestrial. Especially common in wetter areas. Waste places, pasture, frequently along drains and in swamps.

Features*:

Clover-like perennial legume, scrambling to 1 m (2 m if supported). Roots fibrous. Stems with stolons, hollow, hairless to moderately hairy, woody at base often dying back to base in dry conditions. Leaves stalkless, 3-foliolate with 2 smaller leaflets (stipules) at base, usually with a few hairs beneath and on margins; leaflets 8-22 mm long, with conspicuous lateral veins. Flowers pea-like, 11-13 mm long, fragrant, golden yellow; clustered 5-12 on stalk 12-15 cm long, Nov-Mar. Seed pods straight, thin, 15-35 mm long.

Flowering:

November, December,
January

Fruiting:

Summer and
autumn

***Attribution:**

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

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. 1365 pp.

Popay et al (2010). An illustrated guide to common weeds of New Zealand, third edition. NZ Plant Protection Society Inc, 416pp.

Johnson PN, Brooke PA (1989). Wetland plants in New Zealand. DSIR Field Guide, DSIR Publishing, Wellington. 319pp.

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=3453



Caption: Seed of *Lotus pedunculatus*

Photographer: Trevor James
(AgResearch)



Caption: Flower of *Lotus pedunculatus*

Photographer: Trevor James
(AgResearch)