

# Horned poppy

*Glaucium flavum*

Family Papaveraceae



## Identification

- Biennial (lives for two years) or perennial species (lives for more than 2 years)
- Leaves are bluish/grey-green and hairy
- Leaf edges wavy and ruffled
- Yellow poppy-like flowers appear from November to March
- Very long, thin, horn-like seed pods appear from December to April
- Grows to approximately 20 - 30 cm tall



Horned poppy. Photo: A. Paltridge (DOC)



Horned poppy seed pods (left photo). Horned poppy leaves (right photo). Photos: A. Paltridge (DOC)

## Where is it found?

Horned poppy can mostly be seen growing around coastal sites in Canterbury but can sometimes be found inland. It is known to be growing in coastal parts of Banks Peninsula.

Horned poppy prefers to grow in rocky or shingly coastal places that get full sun and have well-drained soils. It can also be found growing in sandy substrates.

## Status

Horned poppy has no official weed status in the Canterbury region.

## Why is it a problem?

Horned poppy is a garden escape. It reproduces by seed and each long seed pod contains many seeds. Horned poppy is accustomed to living in maritime situations. Tolerant of dry, drought-like conditions, this exotic invader is seen as a threat to predominantly coastal beach areas.



Horned poppy growing on a sandy beach. Inset photo - Horned poppy flower Photos: A. Paltridge (DOC)