

Cape tulip (*Homeria collina*)



Salmon-pink to orange-scarlet flowers

Cape tulip has a single, strap-shaped leaf arising from a corm. The plant is poisonous to farm animals and also to humans. Despite long expensive attempts at eradication, it is still found in a few places in New Zealand, and even now is found in a few home gardens. The flower stem is shorter than the leaf, zigzags, and bears up to 40 attractive salmon-pink to orange-scarlet flowers. Each plant produces many corms and thousands of seeds, which can be spread in many ways.

This plant is a notifiable organism and is subject to a MAF eradication programme. All sightings must be reported to MAF's contracted control agency, AgriQuality New Zealand (phone: 0508 00 11 22), who will arrange for its clearance and disposal.