

# Euphrasia revoluta

## COMMON NAME

eyebright

## FAMILY

Orobanchaceae

## AUTHORITY

Euphrasia revoluta Hook.f.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

EUPREV

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North and South Islands, Ruahine and Tararua Ranges southwards.

## HABITAT

Subalpine boggy and open places, tussock-grassland, and herb-fields.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Low tufted perennial herb sometimes with woody stock up to 2 mm diameter; stems slender, rooting at nodes and stoloniferous, branches numerous, erect, up to approximately 50 mm tall, slender to filiform, white-pubescent. Leaves sessile, usually rather close-set, 2-10 x 1-5 mm, narrow- to rhomboid-cuneate with 1 pair of small acute teeth below large triangular or rounded terminal lobe, glabrous, margins thickened and revolute. Flowers single or few at tips of branches, subsessile or on white-pubescent pedicels up to approximately 5 mm long. Calyx 5-8 mm long, white-pubescent, evenly or subevenly divided approximately  $\frac{1}{3}$  way; lobes acute to subacute, margins and midribs thickened and reddish. Corolla white, 10-15 mm long and diameter; tube usually much longer than calyx; lobes of lower lip 3-5 mm wide, entire, or shallowly emarginate. Anthers red-brown, margins hairy, awns unequal, stout. Capsule more or less equal to calyx, approximately 6-7 x 3-4 mm, oblong to obovate, sparsely setose at apex; seeds numerous, 1-1.5 mm long.

## SIMILAR TAXA

See 'Taxonomic Notes' below.



Mt Holdsworth, February. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## FLOWERING

(November-) December – February (-April).

## FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

## FRUITING

December - April

## LIFE CYCLE

Seeds is dispersed by wind and possibly water and ballistic projection (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## ETYMOLOGY

**euphrasia**: Eye-medicine

**revoluta**: Rolled back from margins or apex

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

Allan (1961) notes: Plants varying markedly in size, habit, leaf-shape, pubescence, and floral characters have hitherto been included under this name, but those matching the type constitute a well-defined and easily recognizable taxon to which the name is here restricted. Most Nelson specimens in *E. revoluta* folders belong to the closely related *Euphrasia townsonii*, which differs most obviously in long pedicels and glandular-hairy calyx. Other plants sometimes included are referable rather to *Euphrasia laingii*, while *Euphrasia drucei* and *Euphrasia petriei* are two further segregants from the complex.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by M.D. Ward (11 November 2020) Description adapted from Allan (1961).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H. H. 1961. Flora of New Zealand. Volume 1. Wellington: Government Printer. Page 854.

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285-309

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/euphrasia-revoluta/>