

Ranunculus ternatifolius

SYNONYMS

Ranunculus trilobatus Kirk non Kit. ex Schlecht.

FAMILY

Ranunculaceae

AUTHORITY

Ranunculus ternatifolius Kirk

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

RANTER

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 32

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: DP, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: DP, EF, Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North and South Islands. Known from two sites in the North Island (Erua, Makirikiri Tarns). In the South known from NW Nelson, Canterbury, Otago and Southland.

HABITAT

Damp sites in forest, scrub and tussock grassland. Often associated with base-rich rocks and substrates.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACW: Facultative Wetland

Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Diminutive, tufted, perennial stoloniferous herb forming diffuse to dense colonies. Leaves (1)-2-ternate, leaflets 91-125(-10) mm diam., long-stalked, entire or ternatifid, sparsely hairy. Flowers leaf-opposed, solitary, 3-4 mm diam., produced from stolons. Pedicels very short, sparsely hairy. Sepals spreading, hairy. Petals 5, yellow, lanceolate or narrow-obovate; nectary single, 1 mm from petal base. covered by small, round scale. receptacle hairy. Achenes (seeds) 5-15(-20), flattened, glabrous, beak curved, 0.5 mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

None



Ranunculus ternatifolius. Photographer: Cathy Jones, Licence: CC BY.



Ranunculus ternatifolius. Photographer: Cathy Jones, Licence: CC BY.

FLOWERING

October to January (but sporadic flowering may occur throughout the year)

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

November to April

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Very easily grown from fresh seed and division of mature plants. However, plants are difficult to maintain, and are very prone to sudden collapse and are often afflicted with powdery mildew

THREATS

Threatened throughout its range by competition from weeds, and habitat loss.

ETYMOLOGY

ranunculus: From the Latin 'rana' frog, meaning little frog and probably refers to the plants typical marshy habit where frogs abound

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (1 February 2008). Description based on Webb et al. (1988).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Webb C.J., Sykes W.R., Garnock-Jones P.J. 1988: *Flora of New Zealand. Volume IV*. Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ranunculus-ternatifolius/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ranunculus-ternatifolius/>