

Astelia grandis

COMMON NAMES

swamp astelia

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

GENUS

Astelia

FAMILY

Asteliaceae

AUTHORITY

Astelia grandis Hook.f. ex Kirk

SYNONYMS

Astelia nervosa var. *grandis* (Kirk) Ckn. et Allan

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Fleshy berries are dispersed by frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

ETYMOLOGY

astelia: Stemless

grandis: Big

NVS CODE

ASTGRA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 140

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)



Turoa rd, Mt Ruapehu, February. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Turoa rd, Mt Ruapehu, February. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, PF, TL Help
The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the “Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland” Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Jones, S. 1995. *Astelia grandis* (swamp astelia) in the Waitakere Ranges. Auckland Botanical Society Journal, 50: 37-38.

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 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/astelia-grandis/>

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25 May 2026