Briza minor

COMMON NAMES
shivery grass

BIOSTATUS
Exotic

CONSERVATION STATUS
Not applicable

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Grasses

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION
This tuft-forming grass grows up to 45 cm tall. It has a cluster of ver small (2–5 mm) heart-shaped seed heads of slender forked branches. Seeds appear in summer and are pale green (Ermert and Clapp 1998).

GENUS
Briza

FAMILY
Poaceae

AUTHORITY
Briza minor L.

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

YEAR NATURALISED
1867

ORIGIN
Mediterranean

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Reproduces via seed or bulbils

ETYMOLOGY
briza: From Greek brizo ‘to nod’ referring to the nodding motion of the spikelets
minor: Smaller

NVS CODE
BRIMIN

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/briza-minor/

PDF DATE
25 May 2026

Ligule. Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 26/11/2006, Licence: CC BY.

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