Cardamine mutabilis

COMMON NAMES
tarn bittercress

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: Sp, CD, DPT, RR
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS
White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION
For a detailed description see Flora of New Zealand

HABITAT
Margins of ephemeral wetlands and tarns, and wet ground in tussock grassland and herbfield.

GENUS
Cardamine

FAMILY
Brassicaceae

AUTHORITY
Cardamine mutabilis Heenan

SYNONYMS
First described in 2017 (Heenan 2017)

TAXONOMIC NOTES
Previously known by the tagname *Cardamine* “tarn”.

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

ETYMOLOGY
cardamine: From the Greek name kárdamon, referring to an Indian spice

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS
2017 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: CD, DP, EF, RR, Sp
Jump to current conservation status

Snowy Gorge, Ahuriri Conservation Park. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 09/03/2010, Licence: CC BY-NC-ND.

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REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Critical | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, EF, NR, NStr, RR, TL Help
The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Otago conservation status information is sourced from the "Conservation Status of Indigenous Vascular Plants in Otago, 2025" Jarvie S et al. (2025) report.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan PB. 2017. A taxonomic revision of *Cardamine* L. (Brassicaceae) in New Zealand. *Phytotaxa* 330(1): 1–154. https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.330.1.1.

MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cardamine-mutabilis/

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