

Coriaria plumosa

COMMON NAMES

feathery tutu, mountain tutu, small-leaved tutu

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

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CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Low-growing bushy spreading shrub consisting of many erect branches bearing feathery dark green narrow pointed leaves 6–8mm long by 1.5–3mm wide, widest near base of leaf. Inhabiting open upland areas. Branches square in cross-section, soft. Fruit black, arranged in a short spike.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island from Mount Egmont and Mount Hikurangi south and throughout South Island.

HABITAT

Occurs in lowland to lower subalpine zones on alluvial ground, grassland, stream-beds and debris slopes.

GENUS

Coriaria

FAMILY

Coriariaceae

AUTHORITY

Coriaria plumosa W.R.B.Oliv.

SYNONYMS

Coriaria lurida var. *parviflora* Cockayne et Allan; *Coriaria lurida* complex sensu Allan (1961)

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

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

POISONOUS PLANT

All *Coriaria* species are poisonous especially the seed inside the black berries. Click on this link for more information about [Poisonous native plants](#).

ETYMOLOGY

coriaria: From the Latin corium 'hide', possibly from the use of some species for tanning leather

plumosa: Feathery



Coriaria plumosa. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

NVS CODE

CORPLU

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened | Qualifiers: 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.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/coriaria-plumosa/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026