Crassula sieberiana

BIOSTATUS
Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS
Green, Red/Pink

DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Short-lived perennial or annual herb forming dull green, pink, reddish-green or red clumps; stems 10-50(-200) mm long, sprawling, ± decumbent, suberect to erect, slender, sometimes rooting at nodes in moist conditions, much-branched. Leaves connate at base, 2.0-2.5(-4.0) × 0.5-0.7(-1.0) mm, c.0.7 mm thick, lanceolate or ovate-lanceolate, flattened above, convex beneath; apex acute. Flowers in small cymose clusters in lf axils, not star-like or fragrant, 4-merous, 2-3 mm diameter; pedicels < 1 mm long at anthesis, to c.2 mm long and ± = leaves at fruiting. Calyx lobes c.1.0-1.2 × 0.7-0.8 mm, very broadly ovate, acute to short-acuminate. Petals c.0.8-0.9 × 0.5-0.6 mm, broadly ovate, green or reddish green with pink tips, shortly acuminate, slightly < calyx lobes. Scales c.0.3 mm long, very narrowly spathulate. Follicles smooth. Seed 0.3-0.5 mm long.

DISTRIBUTION
Indigenous: New Zealand: Three Kings, North, South, Chatham Islands (also Australia)

GENUS
Crassula

FAMILY
Crassulaceae

AUTHORITY
Crassula sieberiana (Schultes et Schultes f.) Druce

SYNONYMS
Tillaea sieberiana Schultes et Schultes.f.

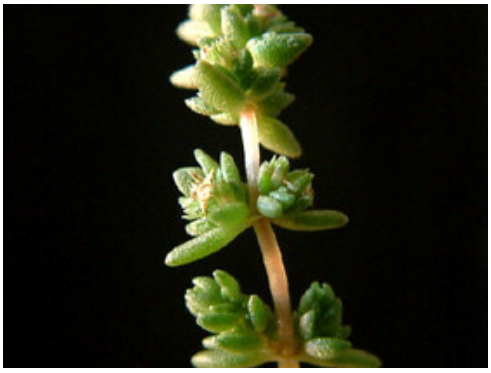
ENDEMIC TAXON
No

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

FLOWERING
August - December

Oteranga Bay, Wellington. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 01/11/2006, Licence: CC BY.



A close up of flowers - Crassula sieberiana, October, Ruffin Rocks, Coromandel. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

FRUITING
October - March

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Minute follicles are dispersed by wind and water and possiblty also by attachment (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Easy from fresh seed but very short-lived.

ETYMOLOGY
crassula: From the Latin crassus ‘thick’, meaning ‘rather thick’

NVS CODE
CRASIE

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO
2012 | Not Threatened
2009 | Not Threatened
2004 | Not Threatened
Jump to current conservation status

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES
Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT 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.
Otago: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened 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
Webb, C.J.; Sykes, W.R.; Garnock-Jones, P.J. 1988: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. DSIR Botany Division, Christchurch.
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 11: 285-309

ATTRIBUTION
Description modified from Webb et al. (1988)
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MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/crassula-sieberiana/

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