

# Crassula sinclairii

## COMMON NAMES

Sinclair's stonecrop

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial herb forming small to large extensive finely filamentous thread-like mats; stems almost prostrate except for slightly ascending tips, freely rooting at nodes, much-branched. Leaves connate at base, 0.5-2.0 × 0.2-0.5 mm, c.0.2 mm thick, lanceolate-oblong, lanceolate-elliptic or oblanceolate, flattened above, strongly convex below; apex acute. Flowers solitary in lf axils, star-like, 4-merous, sweetly fragrant, 2.5-3.5 mm diameter; pedicels 0.5-3.0 mm long, elongating little at fruiting. Calyx lobes 0.4-0.6 × c.4 mm, broadly ovate, obtuse or subacute. Petals 1.0-1.8 × 0.5-0.9 mm, broadly ovate or triangular-ovate, white, often flushed pink, obtuse, much > calyx. Scales c.0.5 mm long, oblong-cuneate or oblanceolate. Follicles smooth. Seed 0.30-0.45 mm long.

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands.

## HABITAT

Coastal to alpine, Aquatic in slow flowing rivers, creeks, ponds, tarns and lakes, and also in brackish lagoons, and waterways. Usually in places where it is submerged for most of the year.

## GENUS

Crassula

## FAMILY

Crassulaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Crassula sinclairii* (Hook.f.) A.P.Druce et D.R.Given

## SYNONYMS

*Tillaea sinclairii* Hook.f., *T. novae-zelandiae* var. *obtusa* Kirk, *T. novae-zelandiae* Petrie

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No



Lake Lyndon, Canterbury. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 14/02/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Lake Lyndon, Canterbury. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 14/02/2015, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## FLOWERING

October - March

## FRUITING

November - June

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Minute follicles are dispersed by wind and water and possibly also by attachment (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from rooted pieces but difficult to maintain and not especially attractive.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

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

## ETYMOLOGY

**crassula**: From the Latin crassus 'thick', meaning 'rather thick'

**sinclairii**: After Sinclair (c. 1796–1861). Colonial Secretary and naturalist.

## NVS CODE

CRASIN

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 30, 56

## 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.

## 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-sinclairii/>

## PDF DATE

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