

Dichondra brevifolia

COMMON NAMES

dichondra

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

White

DISTRIBUTION

Probably endemic. Three Kings, North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands

GENUS

Dichondra

FAMILY

Convolvulaceae

AUTHORITY

Dichondra brevifolia Buchanan

SYNONYMS

None

TAXONOMIC NOTES

Rather variable with several well marked races which probably warrant taxonomic recognition.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Seeds are wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed and/or rooted pieces. Does best in fertile, damp soil within a sunny place. An excellent turf plant, ideal for bowling greens and high impact lawns overlying poorly drained lawns

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).



Whanganui, in mown lawn. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 01/01/2012, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Whanganui, in mown lawn. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 01/01/2012, Licence: CC BY-NC.

ETYMOLOGY

dichondra: Two seeds

brevifolia: Short-leaved

NVS CODE

DICBRE

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 30

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Declining | Qualifiers: DPR, DPS, DPT, PF, RR 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 | 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

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/dichondra-brevifolia/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026