

# Dichondra repens

## COMMON NAME

Mercury Bay weed, dichondra

## SYNONYMS

None in New Zealand

## FAMILY

Convolvulaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Dichondra repens* J.R.Forst et G.Forst

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

DICREP

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 30

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. Three Kings, North, South, Chatham Islands. Found throughout the world

## FLOWERING

September - February

## FLOWER COLOURS

Green, White

## FRUITING

November - May

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed and rooted pieces, In some places often naturally present in lawns. Prone in humid places to powdery mildew in summer. Tolerant of a wide range of conditions but not such a good lawn cover as *D. brevifolia* Buchanan



Coromandel, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Lake Kohangapiripiri, Wellington Harbour. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

## ETYMOLOGY

**dichondra:** Two seeds

**repens:** From Latin repere meaning to creep, means creeping

## WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally available from mainline and specialist native plant nurseries. A silvery-grey colour form of uncertain origin is currently popular at garden centres.

## 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-repens/>