Elatostema rugosum

COMMON NAMES
parataniwha, New Zealand begonia

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

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

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

DISTRIBUTION
North Island only, from North Cape to Kapiti Island and the Tararua range. Locally sparse in the lower North Island.

HABITAT
Damp and shaded areas often by streamsides in lowland to montane forest.

Rotokare, Taranaki. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 24/07/2013, Licence: CC BY.

Rotokare, Taranaki. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 24/07/2013, Licence: CC BY.

GENUS
Elatostema

FAMILY
Urticaceae

AUTHORITY
Elatostema rugosum A.Cunn.

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Papery achenes are dispersed by ballistic projection and water (Thorsen et al., 2009).

CULTIVATION
Occasionally available from specialist native plant nurseries.

ETYMOLOGY
elatostema: Projecting stamens
rugosum: Wrinkled

NVS CODE
ELARUG

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 24

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 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.

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/elatostema-rugosum/

PDF DATE

25 May 2026