

# Epacris alpina

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Bushy woody shrub with small hard leaves 3-5mm long and a small dry capsule inhabiting mountains. Twigs covered in small hairs. Leaves distinctly widest at middle, with a prominent ridge on the underside. Flowers white, solitary in the base of leaves but many per twig.

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North and South Islands from montane areas south of the Central Volcanic Plateau.

## GENUS

Epacris

## FAMILY

Ericaceae

## AUTHORITY

Epacris alpina Hook.f.

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Minute seeds are wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

## ETYMOLOGY

**epacris**: From the Greek epi 'upon' and akros 'the top', referring these plants' habitat being on high ground

**alpina**: From the Latin alpes 'the Alps', refers to plants growing in mountainous areas

## NVS CODE

EPAALP

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 26



Mt Ruapehu, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## 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/epacris-alpina/>

## PDF DATE

27 May 2026