

Epilobium pernitens

COMMON NAME

willowherb

FAMILY

Onagraceae

AUTHORITY

Epilobium pernitens Cockayne et Allan

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

EPIPER

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 36

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

North Island: Rakumara, Ruahine & Tararua Ranges, Mt Taranaki; mountains throughout South Island; Stewart Island.

HABITAT

Open, moist slopes, usually above the bushline but occasionally lower in open springy meadows; 900-1,900 m.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACW: Facultative Wetland

Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Black-purple stems.

SIMILAR TAXA

Other *Epilobium* species; for example *E. brunnescens*.

FLOWERING

December - February

LIFE CYCLE

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



Hooker valley, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Longwood Range, Southland. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 05/05/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.

ETYMOLOGY

epilobium: From the Greek epi- 'upon' and lobos 'a pod', the flowers appearing to be growing on the seed pod.

pernitens: Shining

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013).

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.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Epilobium pernitens* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/epilobium-pernitens/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/epilobium-pernitens/>