

# 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

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

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.

## FEATURES

Black-purple stems.

## SIMILAR TAXA

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

## FLOWERING

December - February

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## ETYMOLOGY

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

**pernitens**: Shining



Hooker valley, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Longwood Range, Southland.

## **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**

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## **MORE INFORMATION**

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