

# Gaultheria depressa var. depressa

## SYNONYMS

*Gaultheria antipoda* var. *depressa* Hook.f.

## FAMILY

Ericaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Gaultheria depressa* Hook.f. var. *depressa*

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

GAUDVD

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: SO

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Low-growing shrub bearing rounded leathery leaves that have obvious small hairs on margin. Twigs with dark bristly hairs. Leaves 5–10 mm long by 4–6 mm wide. Flowers white, bell-shaped, solitary at base of leaf. Fruit white to red, 6–10 mm wide, lobed.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

## LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries are dispersed by invertebrate frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## ETYMOLOGY

**gaultheria:** Named after Jean François Gaultier of Quebec (6 Oct 1708–10 July 1756) by the Scandinavian Pehr Kalm in 1748.

**depressa:** From the Latin depremere ‘to press down’, meaning to be flattened vertically, often referring to a plant’s habit

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2009.06.001>.



Mt Burns, February. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

**MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/gaultheria-depressa-var-depressa/>