

# Geniostoma ligustrifolium var. crassum

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: OL

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Shrub bearing pale green thick leaves that are silvery pale underneath inhabiting the northern tip of the North Island. Leaves rounded or pointed, more or less fleshy. Flowers small, green, slightly hairy, in clusters at base of leaf. Fruit a dry capsule splitting in two to show small orange seeds.

## FLOWER COLOURS

Green

## GENUS

Geniostoma

## FAMILY

Loganiaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Geniostoma ligustrifolium* var. *crassum* Cheeseman

## SYNONYMS

*Geniostoma rupestre* var. *ligustrifolium* (A.Cunn.) B.J.Conn

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

*Geniostoma ligustrifolium* var. *crassum* is a distinct ultramafic endemic with a lianoid trailing habit. It has proved virtually impossible to maintain in cultivation without regular applications of serpentinite. On the Surville Cliffs it is occasionally sympatric with *G. ligustrifolium* var. *ligustrifolium*, an upright shrub or small tree that dislikes ultramafic soils. The opinion of Murray & de Lange (1999) is here followed in treating both taxa as distinct and further suggesting that var. *crassum* warrants species rank (see *Geniostoma ligustrifolium* var. *ligustrifolium*).

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No



In cultivation ex Surville Cliffs. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 04/10/2007, Licence: CC BY.



Surville Cliffs, Te Pahi. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 19/10/2009, Licence: CC BY.

## ETYMOLOGY

**geniostoma**: The tribe with pitted seed

**ligustrifolium**: From the genus Ligustrum privet and the Greek word phylum 'leaf', meaning privet-leaved

**crassum**: Thick

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 40

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: OL

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: OL

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: CD, ST, OL

2004 | Range Restricted

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Murray, B.G.; de Lange, P. J. 1999: Contributions to a chromosome atlas of the New Zealand flora - 35. Miscellaneous families. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 37: 511-521.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/geniostoma-ligustrifolium-var-crassum/>

## PDF DATE

27 May 2026