

Gingidia enysii var. enysii

SYNONYMS

Ligusticum enysii Kirk, Anisotome enysii (Kirk) Laing, Gingidium enysii (Kirk) J.W.Dawson var. enysii, Gingidium enysii var. spathulatum J.W.Dawson, Gingidia enysii var. spathulatum J.W.Dawson

FAMILY

Apiaceae

AUTHORITY

Gingidia enysii (Kirk) J.W.Dawson var. enysii

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Endangered | Qualifiers: Dp, RR

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, and as interpreted here to Castle Hill, Flock Prebble Hills, Cave Creek and Broken River.

HABITAT

Limestone outcrops and associated talus slopes within montane habitats (up to 700 m a.s.l.). Usually in open, sparsely vegetated sites. Often on the tops of solution karren or shallow depressions on the tops of rock stacks and towers.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout tufted glaucous perennial herbs forming small circular patches 100 x 100 mm; bases clean from dead leaf remnants. Petioles 10-20 x 0.5-2.0 mm; sheaths 6-10 x 3-7 mm. Leaves once pinnate rarely 2-pinnate, fleshy, 30-100 x 8-30 mm, distinctly glaucous on both surfaces; leaflets 2-10 pairs, each 3-12 x 3-10 mm, simple, pinnatifid or pinnate with one to two (or more) segments, segments overlapping cut at less than or equal to one-third of the way to the mid-vein, terminal leaflets similar in size to the lateral leaflets; stomata abundant on both surfaces, leaflets sessile or with short petiolules. Inflorescences 50-170 mm long with axes 1.0-1.5 mm diameter below the first node; compound umbels 1-4 per inflorescence; in simple umbels 2-6 per compound umbel; bracts free or partly fused; flowers 5-12 per simple umbel; styles 0.75-2.00 mm long. Mericarps (excluding style) 2.5-5.0 mm long, dull light orange-yellow, orange-brown to brown, sometimes tinged purple, vittae dark brown to black-brown; narrowly ovate, ovate to narrowly ovate-oblong; apex narrowed to 2-3 ovate-triangular calyx teeth and usually recurved style remnant; surface broadly convex with 5 equal ribs.



Gingidia enysi. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.



St Mary's Range. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

SIMILAR TAXA

Differs from *G. enysii* var. *peninsulare* J.W.Dawson by the leaflet segments which are cut at no more than one-third of the way to the mid-vein. In all other respects similar. Both taxa are allopatric with var. *peninsulare* confined to igneous rocks on Banks Peninsula.

FLOWERING

October - January

FLOWER COLOURS

Brown, Orange

FRUITING

November - May

LIFE CYCLE

Winged mericarps are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. Does well in a well drained, sunny situation. Does not tolerate overshadowing and dislikes prolonged humidity or wet poorly draining soils. Responds well to regular applications of lime

THREATS

As interpreted here, *G. enysii* is probably threatened rather than range restricted as its habitats are being over run by aggressive weeds such as *Hieracium* L. and *Dactylis* L. It is still very common in at Castle Hill but as these weeds continue to spread its range is contracting there. It is very local outside Castle Hill. Almost certainly warrants a higher Threat Listing, perhaps as Chronically Threatened/Serious Decline.

ETYMOLOGY

gingidia: A Syrian carrot

enysii: Named in honour of John Davies Enys (1837-1912), a Cornish geologist, biologist and farmer, who owned Castle Hill Station in Canterbury from 1867 to 1891.

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

TAXONOMIC NOTES

On going research into the *G. enysii* complex by Dr(s) B.P.J. Molloy and R. Gardner (University of Auckland) support the concepts of Dawson (1967) rather than Webb (1977). However, their research (based on morphology supplemented by rDNA ITS data) also suggests that other populations from the Kaikoura Ranges, North and South Canterbury, and northern Otago are not *G. enysii* but allied, as yet unnamed (or apparently unnamed) species. The Banks Peninsula endemic *Gingidia enysii* var. *peninsulare* J.W.Dawson is also distinct from *G. enysii* var. *enysii* though at a much lower level than the other populations investigated.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet by P.J. de Lange (21 August 2006). Description based on Dawson (1967)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Dawson, J. W. 1967: The New Zealand species of *Gingidium* (Umbelliferae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 5: 84-106

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

Webb, C.J. 1977: *Gingidia baxteri* and *Gingidia enysii* (Umbelliferae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 15: 639-643.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/gingidia-enysii-var-enysii/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/gingidia-enysii-var-enysii/>