

Gingidia trifoliolata

SYNONYMS

Ligusticum trifoliolatum Hook.f., *Angelica trifoliolata* (Hook.f.) Cockayne,
Anisotome ensyisii var. *tennysonianum* Laing,

FAMILY

Apiaceae

AUTHORITY

Gingidia trifoliolata (Hook.f.) J.W.Dawson

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

GINTRI

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Sparse

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island from the southern and eastern Marlborough Ranges and Lake Tennyson to Canterbury

HABITAT

Montane to subalpine (> 900 m a.s.l.). Usually found in or under scrub (chiefly grey-scrub) on river terraces, colluvium, steep slopes, alluvial fans, talus slopes and in and around cliff faces and their associated boulder falls. Sometimes in wetlands.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).



Gingidia trifoliolata, Wairau Valley.
Photographer: John Barkla



Gingidia trifoliolata habit, Wairau Valley.
Photographer: John Barkla

FEATURES

Glaucous usually solitary herb up to 450 mm tall. All parts smelling faintly of aniseed when bruised or crushed. Taproot stout, 20–80 x 10–15 mm, usually solitary, sometimes multiciple and plants spreading by short rhizomes or stolons. Stems stout, short, basally invested by leaf-remains. Leaves clustered toward base, somewhat flaccid. Petioles slender, up to 100 mm long, expanded at base and sheathing, otherwise tapering toward leaves. Leaves 3-foliolate or pinnate; pinnae 3–5(–7), rather distant, leaflets usually with 2–3-divisions or entire; petiolules up to 20 mm long. Lamina 10–12 x 10–17 mm, firmly fleshy to membranous, yellow-green to pale whitish glaucous above, dark glaucous below, rhomboid to suborbicular, cuneately narrowed to base or truncate; margins crenulate-denticulate especially towards apex, sometimes entire. Umbels compound, delicate and small, borne on stout to slender often somewhat flaccid peduncles 100–200 mm long, subtended by 1 or more leaves these deeply 3–5-lobed. Primary rays 2–3, unequal, up to 50 mm long, bracts narrow-lanceolate; secondary rays 3–5, stout, bracts minute, linear. Calyx-teeth minute, petals white; styles delicate and slender, spreading, persistent. fruits 6.5 mm long; mericarps compressed, with a pair of broad lateral wings; dorsal ribs conspicuous. Vittae 1 per furrow, 2 on commissural face.

SIMILAR TAXA

Most similar to *G. montana* (J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.) J.W.Dawson from which it differs by its much smaller size, fewer, and more flaccid leaves which have 3–7-leaflets rather than 11–30 petiolulate (rather than sessile) leaflets.

FLOWERING

November - January

FLOWER COLOURS

White

FRUITING

December - February

LIFE CYCLE

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult - should not be removed from the wild

THREATS

Not believed to be threatened but it is undoubtedly eaten where plants are accessible to browsing animals. Apparently always rather localised and never common at any particular place, this species seems to have its strong hold from southern Marlborough to Central Canterbury. As it is usually found as small, widely scattered, somewhat diffuse populations it may also have suffered from being overlooked during past botanical surveys.

ETYMOLOGY

gingidia: A Syrian carrot

trifoliolata: With three leaflets

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

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/gingidia-trifoliolata/>