

# Hierochloe recurvata

## COMMON NAME

holy grass

## SYNONYMS

*Hierochloe fraseri* var. *recurvata* Hack., *H. alpina* var. *recurvata* (Hack.)  
Zotov

## FAMILY

Poaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Hierochloe recurvata* (Hack.) Zotov

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

## NVS CODE

HIEREC

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island in mountains from East Cape south. South Island along main divide, local in the east at Canterbury and Otago.

## LIFE CYCLE

Florets are water and wind dispersed (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## ETYMOLOGY

**hierochloe:** From the Greek hieros 'sacred' and chloa 'grass' meaning holy grass. European species of this grass were once strewn on church floors.

**recurvata:** Curved backwards (awns)

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available



## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Johnson, A. T. and Smith, H. A (1986). *Plant Names Simplified: Their pronunciation, derivation and meaning*. Landsman Bookshop Ltd: Buckenhill, UK.

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

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hierochloe-recurvata/>