

# Hypericum rubicundulum

## SYNONYMS

None. First described in December 2008

## FAMILY

Hypericaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Hypericum rubicundulum* Heenan

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 16

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2018 | Threatened – Nationally Endangered

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: DP, RR

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Range Restricted

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (Kuripapango), South Island (Nelson - Southland except Marlborough and Westland).

## HABITAT

A species growing on the margins of lakes and tarns and other wet depressions and seepages in drought-prone and dry-climate areas of inland South Island.

## FEATURES

Herbs, perennial, rhizomatous, glabrous. Stems usually red.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Distinguished from *Hypericum pusillum* by the rhizomatous growth habit, leaves that are grey-green to olive-green and usually ruddy and without sinuate margins, slightly larger flowers, and seeds with distinct longitudinal ridges.

## FLOWERING

November–April

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

## FRUITING

November–May



Flower. Photographer: John Barkla



Quailburn Tarns. Photographer: John Barkla

## LIFE CYCLE

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

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy. Best grown in a small pot kept partially submerged in water. An attractive plant on account of the grey-green, reddish leaves and bright yellow flowers.

## THREATS

The habitat this species occupies is under considerable pressure throughout much of its range because of water abstraction for dairy farms and residential developments. More survey and monitoring of known populations is needed. Previously regarded (as *Hypericum* aff. *japonicum* (b) (CHR 140620; "tarn")) as Range Restricted by de Lange *et al.* (2004).

## ETYMOLOGY

**hypericum:** From the Greek hyper (above) and eikon (picture), the plant was hung above pictures to ward off evil spirits

## WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially Available

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for the NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (1 July 2008). Description from Heenan (2008).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

de Lange P.J. *et al.* 2004: Threatened and uncommon plants of New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 42: 45-76.

Heenan, P.B. 2008: Three newly recognised species of *Hypericum* (Clusiaceae) from New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 46: 547-558.

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

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Hypericum rubicundulum* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hypericum-rubicundulum/> (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/hypericum-rubicundulum/>