

# Koeleria lepida

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart Islands, from Mt Pirongia and Hikurangi south. Also on the Chatham Islands

## HABITAT

In open forest (often *Fuscospora*), scrub or tussock grassland. Also along river, stream and lake margins, showing a distinct preference for calcareous rocks, or base-rich rock faces.

## GENUS

Koeleria

## FAMILY

Poaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Koeleria lepida* (Edgar et A.P.Druce) Barberá, Quintanar, Soreng et P.M.Peterson

## SYNONYMS

*Trisetum lepidum* Edgar et A.P.Druce

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed and rooted pieces. An attractive and easily grown grass. Does best in damp ground in a cool, shaded spot.

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

## ETYMOLOGY

**koeleria**: Named after George Ludwig Koeler (1765-1807), 18th century German botanist. Author of a work on the grasses of Germany and France, *Descriptio graminum in Gallia et Germania* (1802).

## MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

[Key to the grasses of New Zealand](#)



Leaf base. Atiwhakatu Stream, Tararua Range. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 02/02/2008, Licence: CC BY.



Ligule. Atiwhakatu Stream, Tararua Range. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 02/02/2008, Licence: CC BY.

## NVS CODE

TRILEP

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Otago conservation status information is sourced from the "[Conservation Status of Indigenous Vascular Plants in Otago, 2025](#)" Jarvie S et al. (2025) report.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/koeleria-lepida/>

## PDF DATE

27 May 2026