

Leptostigma setulosum

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South and Stewart islands, often absent from large areas but can be locally common

GENUS

Leptostigma

FAMILY

Rubiaceae

AUTHORITY

Leptostigma setulosum (Hook.f.) Fosberg

SYNONYMS

Nertera setulosa Hook.f., Coprosma setulosa (Hook.f.) Heads

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Hairy calyces are possibly wind dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from rooted pieces, and attractive and (once established) very hardy ground cover

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

CULTIVATION

Occasionally sold by specialist native plant nurseries

NVS CODE

LEPSTL



In cultivation. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 19/10/2007, Licence: CC BY.



Leptostigma setulosa flower, Curnow Road Reserve, Northland. Photographer: A. J. Townsend, Date taken: 21/10/2010, Licence: CC BY-NC.

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 40

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Critical | Qualifiers: DE, DPS, DPT, PF, RR Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the [“Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland”](#) Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.

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.

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/leptostigma-setulosum/>

PDF DATE

05 July 2026