

# Linum monogynum var. chathamicum

## COMMON NAMES

Chatham Island linen flax

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: CI, EF, IE, RR

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## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## GENUS

Linum

## FAMILY

Linaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Linum monogynum* var. *chathamicum* Cockayne

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

Further research into the status of *Linum monogynum* var. *chathamicum* is needed. Whilst plants with bluish or blue striped flowers have been found in New Zealand proper, recent DNA data (Heenan et al. 2010) suggests that Chatham Island plants are distinct. Further research is needed, but until such time as this has been done it seems prudent to retain the Chatham Island *Linum* as distinct from New Zealand plants.

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## ETYMOLOGY

**linum**: Flax

**monogynum**: United styles

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 84

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: IE, RR

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan, P.B.; Mitchell, A.D.; de Lange, P.J.; Keeling, J.; Paterson, A.M. 2010: Late Cenozoic origin and diversification of Chatham Islands endemic plant species revealed by analyses of DNA sequence data. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 48: 83–136.



Te Whanga Lagoon, Rekohu (Chatham Islands).  
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Te Whanga Lagoon, Chatham Island.  
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**MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/linum-monogynum-var-chathamicum/>

**PDF DATE**

27 May 2026