

Mazus novaezeelandiae subsp. novaezeelandiae

COMMON NAME

dwarf musk

FAMILY

Mazaceae

AUTHORITY

Mazus novaezeelandiae W.R.Barker subsp. novaezeelandiae

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 38

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP

2009 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Serious Decline

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic to New Zealand.

HABITAT

This taxon prefers lowland, wet, sometimes swampy forest, pasture and is occasionally found on forest margins.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

A perennial, creeping herb forming compact, leafy rosettes, leaves spoon-shaped, dark green to yellow-green 20–75 mm long. The margins of the leaves may be pigmented brown. The erect inflorescence is often held well above the foliage and may bear from 1 to 5 Mimulus-like flowers, these are white with a yellow throat.

SIMILAR TAXA

Mazus pumilio which has blue or lilac flowers and a finely toothed leaf margin. This predominantly Australian species is known in New Zealand from only one site in Northland, but is now sold by many garden centres as M. novaezeelandiae.

FLOWERING

Flowering occurs in November.

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow



Tinui, Wairarapa. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 14/12/2013, Licence: CC BY.



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FRUITING

Fruiting capsules are found from December to April.

THREATS

Very susceptible to disturbance, habitat clearance and modification including stock trampling.

ETYMOLOGY

mazus: Tear (after protuberance on throat of flower)

novaezeelandiae: Of New Zealand

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (30 August 2003). For more information see Heenan (1998)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan, P. B. 1998: *Mazus novaezeelandiae* (Scrophulariaceae): taxonomy, distribution, habitats, and conservation. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 36(3): 407-416.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/mazus-novaezeelandiae-subsp-novaezeelandiae/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

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