

# Myosotis antarctica subsp. traillii

## COMMON NAMES

pygmy forget-me-not

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: Sp, CI, DPT

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Ground hugging rosette herb in 1cm to several cm clumps. Lateral branched few to many, prostrate, up to 9cm long. Leaves oval to spoon-shaped; upper surface hairy except towards base, lower surface almost hairless. Leaf hairs stiff and spreading. Flowers white to cream, 3mm diameter.

## FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, White

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Myosotis brevis*. *Myosotis pygmaea* has larger flowers than *Myosotis brevis*.

## DISTRIBUTION

North Island south from the Coromandel Peninsula (a small islet near Coromandel Harbour), including Hawke's Bay, Castlepoint, South Taranaki Coast and near Cape Palliser. South Island, south from Nelson, mainly east of main divide.

## HABITAT

Open coastal habitats to upland grassland, herbfield, open rocky, sandy places and stream sides. Sea level to 1200m a.s.l.

## THREATS

The main threat throughout this species range is loss of habitat, caused by land development, weed invasion and coastal erosion.

## GENUS

*Myosotis*

## FAMILY

Boraginaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Myosotis antarctica* subsp. *traillii* Kirk

## SYNONYMS

*Myosotis pygmaea* Colenso; *Myosotis ramificata* G.Simpson; *Myosotis pygmaea* Colenso var. *pygmaea*

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

The autonym *Myosotis pygmaea* var. *pygmaea* became unnecessary when de Lange & Barkla elevated the other varieties of *M. pygmaea* to species rank in de Lange et al. (2010).



Long Point, Catlins. Photographer: John Barkla, Date taken: 01/01/2013, Licence: CC BY.



*Myosotis pygmaea* var. *pygmaea* - Bull Creek. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## FLOWERING

(August-) September to December (however sporadic flowering may occur throughout the year)

## FRUITING

September to January (however fruits may be found throughout the year)

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. However, plants are short-lived and prone to fungal diseases in humid climates.

## ETYMOLOGY

**myosotis:** Mouse-eared

**antarctica:** Antarctic

**trillii:** After Charles Trail, Stewart Islander

## NVS CODE

MYOPYG

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 44

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: Sp

2012 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: Sp

2009 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: Sp

2004 | Serious Decline

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Extirpated 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 Threatened – Regionally Endangered | Qualifiers: EF, NStr, PF, RR, Sp 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

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

de Lange, P.J.; Heenan, P.B.; Norton, D.A.; Rolfe, J.R.; Sawyer, J.W.D. 2010: Threatened Plants of New Zealand. Canterbury University Press, Christchurch.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (30 August 2003). For more information see Allan (1961) and de Lange et al. (2010)

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### **NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION**

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

### **MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-antarctica-subsp-traillii/>

### **PDF DATE**

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