

# Myosotis chaffeyorum

## COMMON NAMES

forget-me-not

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: Sp, DPR, RR

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Plant perennial, 14–46 mm tall. Rosette leaves 6–9, lamina orbicular, 8.1–8.9 × 7.7–9.2 mm, apex mucronate, mucro c.1 mm long. Leaf indumentum strigose, hairs on upper and lower surface sparsely distributed, non overlapping, appressed and antrorse. Hairs on leaf margin appressed. Petiole well-defined, 11.9–13.5 × 0.2–0.3 mm; hairs appressed, antrorse, sparsely distributed. Stem light brown, decumbent, not rooting at nodes, 59–100 × 0.3–0.5 mm. Stem hairs appressed as for leaves, hairs 0.2–0.6 mm long. Stem leaves elliptic or orbicular, 7.2–8.8 × 4.4–6.2 mm, mucronulate, shortly petiolate or sessile towards distal end of stem. Indumentum as for rosette leaves. Calyx lobes lanceolate, 1.5–2.0 mm long, hairs in upper half of the lobe only. Fruiting calyx 2.3–3 mm long; hairs appressed, straight, overlapping, not uniform in size. Flowers borne along the trailing stem, each usually opposite to a leaf. Pedicel at fruiting 1.5–3.0 mm long. Corolla white with yellow scales, 3.7–4.0 mm across. Corolla lobes obovate, not overlapping, 1.4–1.8 × 1.2–1.6 mm, apex rounded or irregularly notched. Corolla tube 2–2.2 mm long. Stamens included in the corolla, anther appendage slightly above the scales. Filament attached below scales. Anther 0.5 × 0.2 mm. Style 1.8 mm long, stigma clavate. Nutlet smooth, light brown, ovoid to ellipsoid, 1.2 × 0.7–0.8 mm, ventral surface rounded.

## SIMILAR TAXA

*Myosotis chaffeyorum* can be confused with *M. matthewsii* (a North Island (Northland)) endemic and *M. spathulata*. It differs from *Myosotis spathulata* differs from *Myosotis* by its well-defined, slender petiole; appressed, straight hairs on stem, petiole, leaf lamina and margin; and by its decumbent stem not rooting at nodes. From *M. matthewsii* it differs its strigose indumentum on leaf upper surface; smaller flowers (3.7–4.0 mm across vs 5.0–8.0 mm across); stamens included in the corolla tube and by the fruiting calyx borne on a shorter pedicel (1.5–3.0 mm vs 4.6–8.4 mm)

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island (North West Nelson (Kahurangi National Park))

## HABITAT

Montane in closed red beech (*Nothofagus fusca*) forest at the bases of limestone cliff faces

## THREATS

*Myosotis chaffeyorum* is currently known from five populations (four on protected land) and very few individuals (< 250) for this reason it has been listed as Nationally Critical by Lehnbech (2012)

## GENUS

*Myosotis*



Paynes Ford Scenic Reserve, Takaka Valley.  
Photographer: Simon Walls, Date taken:  
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Paynes Ford Scenic Reserve, Takaka Valley.  
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## FAMILY

Boraginaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Myosotis chaffeyorum* C.A.Lehnebach

## SYNONYMS

None - first described in 2012

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## FLOWERING

February

## FRUITING

February

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Unknown

## ETYMOLOGY

**myosotis**: Mouse-eared

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

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

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP, RR, Sp

2009 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Lehnebach, C.A. 2012: Two new species of forget-me-nots (Boraginaceae) from New Zealand. *Phytokeys* 16: 53-64. (doi: 10.3897/phytokeys.16.3602 [www.phytokeys.com](http://www.phytokeys.com))

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange (5 September 2012). Description adapted from Lehnebach (2012)

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-chaffeyorum/>

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026