

# Myosotis drucei

## COMMON NAME

Druce's forget-me-not

## SYNONYMS

*Myosotis pygmaea* var. *drucei* L.B.Moore

## FAMILY

Boraginaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Myosotis drucei* (L.B.Moore) de Lange et Barkla

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

MYODRU

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 44

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island, South Island, Stewart Island/Rakiura and Campbell Island/Motu Ihupuku. From Mt. Hikurangi south through the main axial ranges to Fiordland, also on Banks Peninsula on the high points of Stewart Island. Evidently very uncommon on Campbell Island/Motu Ihupuku.

## HABITAT

Subalpine to alpine. Usually on stable scree, fellfield, stony ground and at the bases of rock tors in places subject to frequent immersion.



At Temple Basin (January). Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Mount Ruapehu. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 08/02/2012, Licence: CC BY.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Decumbent, annual or rarely short-lived perennial herb, forming small circular patches on open ground. **Rosette-leaves** 15 × 5 mm long (sometimes more), lamina obovate or broadly spatulate, obtuse, petiole broad; upper surface hairy except towards base, undersurface almost or quite glabrous, hairs of upper leaf surface tapering to soft ± flexuous tips; spreading. **Lateral branches** up to 8, decumbent, 30–150 mm long, usually branched, internodes usually less than leaves. **Stem-leaves** similar to rosette-leaves near base, becoming sessile above, bracts ovate to broad-oblong, distichous, exceeding internodes, diminishing in size, the lowest up to 10 × 5 mm. **Cymes** usually simple, few- to many-flowered, bracteate throughout; internodes usually less than bracts, sometimes very short; pedicels much smaller than calyx, very hairy. **Calyx** 3–5 mm long, usually lobed to halfway, lobes subacute; hairs long and ± retrorse short, not stiff or hooked. **Corolla** 3.0 mm diameter, cream to lemon-coloured, tube 2–3 mm long, cylindric, lobes narrow with obtuse tip; filaments very short, anthers < 1 mm long, wholly included, tips occasionally reaching level of scales; style less than calyx in length, stigma capitate. **Nutlet** 1.1–1.7 × 0.8–1.0 mm, ovate to ovate-elliptic, black, usually well immersed within calyx remnant.

## FLOWERING

November–February

## FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, Yellow

## FRUITING

December–April

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

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

## THREATS

Not Threatened. However like most indigenous *Myosotis* this species is not that common either. There are no known threats facing the species.

## ETYMOLOGY

**myosotis:** Mouse-eared

**drucei:** Named after Anthony (Tony) Peter Druce, one of New Zealand's most respected field botanist (1920–1999).

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

*Myosotis pygmaea* var. *drucei* was elevated to species rank by de Lange and Barkla in de Lange, et al. (2010).

## NEW ZEALAND BOTANICAL HISTORY

For a brief biography for this plant is named, see this article in [Te Ara - The Encyclopedia of New Zealand](#).

Hundreds of Tony's famed plant lists can be found [here](#) and back-issues of regional Botanical Society Journals which he contributed can be accessed [here](#).

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 30 August 2009. Description adapted from Allan (1961).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan HH. 1961. Flora of New Zealand, Volume I. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Psilopsida, Lycopsidea, Filicopsida, Gymnospermae, Dicotyledones. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 1085 p.

de Lange PJ, Heenan PB, Norton DA, Rolfe JR, Sawyer JWD. 2010. Threatened Plants of New Zealand. Canterbury University Press, Christchurch. 471 p.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Myosotis drucei* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-drucei/> (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

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