# Myosotis glabrescens

## BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DPT, RR
Jump to previous conservation statuses

## CATEGORY
Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## FLOWER COLOURS
White

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Compact, cushion-forming herb to 50 cm diam. Branches horizontal, up to 5 cm, numerous, rooting freely at nodes. Stems copiously covered in overlapping erect hairs. Leaves very broadly spathulate, crowded toward ascending branchlet tips, 5 × 2-3 mm, at first copiously covered in short, stiff, appressed hairs, which become wider-spaced as leaf matures. Flowering branches lateral, almost hidden amongst leaves. Flowers almost stalkless (sessile), subtended by a few elliptic to broad elliptic subacute stem-leaves. Calyx 2-4 mm long, with lobes split to half the calyx length, these narrow, acute, with a rather sparse covering of appressed hairs. Corolla white, 5 mm diameter, tube cylindric, 4 mm long, lobes 2 × 1-1.5 mm, oblong. Stamens with short filaments, anthers 1 mm long, mainly held above corolla-scales. Style = anthers, elongating to much > calyx in fruit. Seeds 2 mm.

## SIMILAR TAXA
Closest to two other cushion-forming species with solitary flowers, M. pulvinaris and M. uniflora. From M. pulvinaris M. glabrescens differs by the anthers held above the corolla scales and M. pulvinaris forms a domed circular cushion. M. uniflora has yellow flowers and leaves that are distinctly narrower than wide. Field recognition: only alpine Myosotis which forms a streamside ground-contouring mat.

## DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. Known only from one site and a few gatherings made in the Hector Range, east of Lake Wakatipu. Strangely, this plant may be better known in Scotland where it is grown by alpine enthusiasts (see: http://www.srgc.org.uk/smf/index.php?topic=3383.30)

## HABITAT
Probably strictly alpine. Plants occur on mid-stream or marginal gravel deposits in the headbasin of alpine streams. May occur in other habitats.

## THREATS
Myosotis glabrescens is known only from one recently-discovered locality (with c. 6 plants), the type specimen collected by Donald Petrie in February 1890 and one or two other collections made in the 1980s. It is for this reason that it has been listed as Data Deficient.

## GENUS
Myosotis

## FAMILY
Boraginaceae

## AUTHORITY
Myosotis glabrescens L.B.Moore

## SYNONYMS
None

## ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS
No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

## FLOWERING
No information available

## FRUITING
No information available

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Grow in free-draining gravel. Plants irregularly flower at lower elevations.

## ETYMOLOGY
**myosotis**: Mouse-eared
**glabrescens**: Becoming hairless

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | Data Deficient
2012 | Data Deficient
2009 | Data Deficient
2004 | Data Deficient
Jump to current conservation status

## REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES
Otago: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Critical | Qualifiers: DPR, DPS, DPT, NS, NStr, RE, RR, Sp, St, TL
Help
Current regional threat status assessments prepared according to Crisp et al. (2025) are displayed when available. The 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 HH. 1961. Flora of New Zealand, Volume I. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Psilopsida, Lycopsida, Filicopsida, Gymnospermae, Dicotyledones. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 1085 p.

## ATTRIBUTION
Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 February 2008. Description based on Allan (1961).
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## MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-glabrescens/

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