

Myosotis goyenii subsp. goyenii

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial herb with stout branched stock producing one or more loose rosettes. Leaves spatulate, 30-140 × 3-14 mm, tip subacute, petiole longer than lamina; hairs alike on both surfaces, short, stiff, straight, closely appressed, barely overlapping, rather sparser on undersurface, clinging to margin. Lateral branches few, ascending or erect, sometimes again branched, 80-300 mm long, internodes equal in length to leaves. Uppermost stem-leaves 10-20 × 2-5 mm, narrow-oblong, sessile, tip acuminate-acute; hairs as on rosette-leaves but more crowded. Cymes ebracteate, on long leafless peduncles, simple or once (occasionally twice) forked; internodes between lower flowers becoming greater than calyx length; pedicels occasionally up to 5 mm long. Calyx c.4mm long, lobes greater than half calyx length, very narrow, acute; hairs usually all short, straight, stiff and appressed as on rest of plant, very crowded at base, evenly covering lobes. Corolla white (rarely pale yellow), c. 7-10 mm diameter, tube 7-8 mm long, narrow-funnelform, inconspicuous scales below mouth, lobes c.3 × 3 mm; filaments very short, fixed below (occasionally much below) scales, anthers 1.5 mm long, tips at or below level of scales; style much greater than calyx; stigma capitate. Nutlet 1.8-3.3 × 1.0-1.9 mm, ovate, black

SIMILAR TAXA

Myosotis goyenii is easily recognised by the ashen grey colouration, loose rosette-forming growth habit, grey long-petioled leaves and leaf hairs which overlap but do not obscure the epidermis.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island: South Canterbury and Central Otago.

HABITAT

Dry bare banks, rocky steep slopes

THREATS

Myosotis goyenii is a naturally uncommon species confined to a small part of the South Island. Within its range the species is rarely common - a pattern that is not that unusual for the New Zealand members of the genus. Despite this natural scarcity, as far as is known there are no active threats affecting this species.

GENUS

Myosotis

FAMILY

Boraginaceae



Cult. plant ex Luggate terraces. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.



Cult. plant ex Luggate terraces. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

AUTHORITY

Myosotis goyenii Petrie

SYNONYMS

None (first described in 1891)

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

October - January

FRUITING

December - March

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Best grown in a rock garden or put, planted within a free draining, fertile soil (enriched with lime). The soil should be kept moist (never fully drying out) but not saturated. Does best in partial shade rather than full sun.

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

NVS CODE

MYOGOY

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Declining | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, NR, NStr, 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 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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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-goyenii-subsp-goyenii/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

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

