

# Myosotis monroi

## COMMON NAME

Monro's forget-me-not

## SYNONYMS

None

## FAMILY

Boraginaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Myosotis monroi* Cheeseman

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

MYOMON

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: OL

2004 | Range Restricted

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Red Hills (Wairau) and Mt Dun. An ultramafic endemic.

## HABITAT

Subalpine to alpine (> 1000 m a.s.l.). usually found in open stony ultramafic talus slopes, scree and in open wind ablated clay and loess pans within *Chionochloa defracta* Connor tussock grassland. Also frequently found on old mine tailings near the copper workings on Mt Dun.

## FEATURES

Tufted to compact, reddish-green to dark-green, perennial herb of open ultramafic rock and soil habitats. Petiole up to 40 mm long, narrow, rosette leaves 40 x 4 mm, dark green to red-green, spatulate, obtuse to retuse, apiculate; indumentum of copious to sparse short, straight, appressed, non-overlapping hairs above, similar, sparse, glabrescent to glabrous below. Lateral branches ascending to erect, 80-150 mm long, leafless below inflorescence, lower internodes < leaves. Cauline leaves 15 x 3 mm, narrowly elliptic, subacute, sessile to subsessile; upper surface with longer, softer hairs than seen on rosette-leaves, those on the margins longer, undersides clad in sparse short, stiff, hairs. Inflorescence cymose, cymes 10-20 mm long, usually bifid, ebracteate, (1-)5-20-flowered, internodes short, pedicels wanting. Calyx 5 mm long, cleft with lobes to almost half of length, these rather broad, subacute; hairs on lobes stiff, straight, appressed. Corolla 6 mm diameter, yellow, tube 5 mm, narrow, flaring slightly at mouth, scales at tube mouth narrow and raised, lobes 3 x 3 mm, narrowly ovate; filaments 8-12(or more) mm long, strongly exerted, and positioned well above corolla, anthers 1 mm, yellow; style 10-12 mm long, stigma capitate. Nutlets 2.3-2.5 x 1.1-1.3 mm, black, ovate, apex rounded; base rounded or truncate.



Windy and exposed ultramafic site, Coppermine Saddle, Nelson. Photographer: Chris Ecroyd

### SIMILAR TAXA

Morphologically close to the North Island endemic *M. saxosa* Hook.f. which is a species of calcareous not ultramafic substrates, with hoary grey-green rather than sparsely to densely hairy (not hoary) dark-green to red-green, spatulate rather than usually broadly-ovate to obovate leaves, and white rather than yellow flowers.

### FLOWERING

November - April

### FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

### FRUITING

February - June

### PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Best grown in a pot or in a sunny situation, planted within a magnesium enriched, free draining soil. Keep free from other competing plants.

### THREATS

Not threatened. This species qualifies as Range Restricted because it is a narrow range, ultramafic endemic. It is locally common within its only known habitats which due to the substrate toxicity are largely, naturally free of weeds.

### ETYMOLOGY

**myosotis:** Mouse-eared

**monroi:** Named after Sir David Monro who was a 19th century New Zealand politician

### WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

### ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared of NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 February 2008. Description based on Allan (1961).

### REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

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

### NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

### MORE INFORMATION

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