

Myosotis scorpioides var. strigulosa

COMMON NAME

water forget-me-not

SYNONYMS

Myosotis scorpioides

FAMILY

Boraginaceae

AUTHORITY

Myosotis scorpioides L.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

MYOSCO

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Low growing herb on wet ground and damp hollows. Leaves are pale green, stems often bend at the base and leaves are willow like. The flowers are small, pale blue with a yellow center.

DISTRIBUTION

Throughout NZ.

HABITAT

Margins and ponds, wet hollows.

FEATURES

Plants are 20 to 60 cm tall, and often forms new plants at the nodes (stolons). Leaves are narrow, alternate and attached directly to the stem and have pointed or rounded tips with a prominent mid-vein. Flowers are 5 to 10 mm wide. The base of the petals forms a tube longer than the length of the petal lobes. Pedicels at fruiting are 1 to 2 times the length of the calyx. Nutlets (4) are black.

SIMILAR TAXA

Very similar to *M. laxa* subsp. *caespitosa*, but the corolla is usually wider than 4mm.

FLOWERING

November to May

FLOWER COLOURS

Blue, Yellow

FRUITING

Autumn

LIFE CYCLE

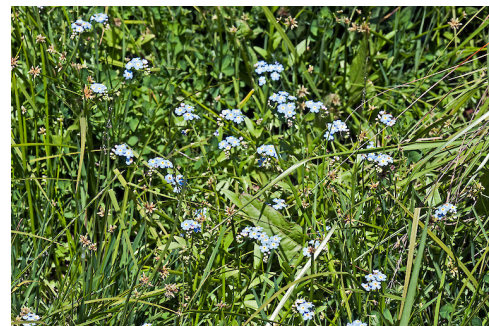
Mainly seed dispersal by water movement and animals contaminated with hooked persistent calyx surrounding seed.

YEAR NATURALISED

1878



Myosotis scorpioides var. *strigulosa*.
Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



Lake Wairarapa. Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe

ORIGIN

Europe

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Ornamental pond and garden plant

CONTROL TECHNIQUES

Can be controlled manually, mechanically or herbicidally depending on situation.

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet prepared by Paul Champion and Deborah Hofstra (NIWA).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Johnson PN, Brooke PA (1989). Wetland plants in New Zealand. DSIR Field Guide, DSIR Publishing, Wellington. 319pp.

Popay et al (2010). An illustrated guide to common weeds of New Zealand, third edition. NZ Plant Protection Society Inc, 416pp.

WSDE (2001). An aquatic plant identification manual for Washington's freshwater plants. Washington State Department of Ecology, 195pp.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-scorpioides-var-strigulosa/>