

Myosotis suavis

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DPR

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small, rosette forming, perennial herb. Leaves broadly obovate-spathulate 2-4 × 0.7-1.5 cm, tip rounded with a small emergent spine (mucronate), all parts but especially the leaf undersides very hairy. Hairs long, tapering, appressed, on undersides shorter. Lateral branches few, ascending up to 10 cm long. Upper stem leaves narrow-elliptic and stalkless, 1-2 × 0.3-1 cm, tip broadly acuminate, hairs numerous, long and silky, appressed. Inflorescences 2 cm long, simple or branched, terminal. Flowers without subtending bracts. Calyx 5-7(-8) mm, lobes > half length, obtuse, copiously covered in appressed often hooked hairs. Corolla white 5-7 mm diameter, tube 4-6 mm, funnel-like, lobes flat, rounded, 1.5-2.5 × 1.5-2.5 mm diameter, stamens with very short filaments, fixed immediately below corolla scales. Anthers 1.5 mm, projecting above rather large corolla scales.

SIMILAR TAXA

Close to *M. explanata* but differing by its smaller size, calyces with crowded hairs, and smaller (7 mm) corollas.

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, known from Westland, Canterbury, and Otago.

HABITAT

Associated with rock outcrops, stony ground, and boulder field.

THREATS

Very little is known about this species, beyond that it is rarely collected and seems to be genuinely scarce. Because so little is known about it, it has been listed as Data Deficient.

GENUS

Myosotis

FAMILY

Boraginaceae

AUTHORITY

Myosotis suavis Petrie

SYNONYMS

None



Jamieson Saddle. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Myosotis suavis, Godley Valley. Photographer: John Barkla, Date taken: 22/01/2019, Licence: CC BY.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

December to February

FRUITING

No information available

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Can be grown with difficulty from rooted pieces. Hard without specialist knowledge and an alpine house.

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

suavis: Sweet

NVS CODE

MYOSUA

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

ATTRIBUTION

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

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NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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MORE INFORMATION

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

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