

# Myriophyllum pedunculatum subsp. novae-zelandiae

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial mat-forming herb, aquatic to terrestrial, stems green, erect or prostrate, 20-100(-150) mm long, rooting at lower nodes, usually  $\pm$  unbranched apart from rhizomatous portions at base. Leaves all entire, linear, 2-6 mm long, 0.5 mm wide, decussate, tip blunt to acute, sometimes almost acuminate, usually with a  $\pm$  well defined midrib. Hydathodes 0-2. Inflorescence a terminal spike with the flowers borne singly in axils of the upper leaves which are indistinguishable from the other leaves. Each flower subtended by 2 bracteoles which are deltoid, 0.6-0.7(-1.3)  $\times$  0.2-0.3 mm, acuminate. Flowers unisexual, males and females often borne on separate stems, but if together, then males borne in upper axils, females below. Male flowers 4-merous, sessile or on pedicel up to 1 cm long. Sepals 4, oblanceolate, lanceolate to narrowly ovate or obovate, 0.9-1.4  $\times$  0.3-0.5 mm, acute or obtuse, sometimes shortly mucronate, margins entire or minutely denticulate, Petals 4, red, hooded, weakly keeled, 1.3-1.7(-2.5)  $\times$  0.8 mm, reflexed at anthesis. Stamens 8; filaments short, lengthening to 2.5 mm at anthesis; anthers linear-oblong, 0.9-1.1(-1.6)  $\times$  0.4 mm, 4-locular, shortly apiculate. Styles and ovary 0. Female flowers 4-merous, on pedicel 0.2-0.5(-1.0) mm long. Sepals 4, deltoid, 0.2 mm long, 0.2 mm wide. Petals 0. Stamens 0. Styles 4, alternating with sepals, 0.4 mm long, stigmas fimbriate, white, sometimes grading to pale pink. Ovary obpyriform, 0.6  $\times$  0.5 mm, channelled opposite sepals, 4-locular. Fruit sessile or shortly pedunculate, red-purple, ovoid to obpyriform, 1.0-1.5  $\times$  1.1-1.2 mm, deeply channelled opposite sepals, smooth to weakly striated, not verrucose; sepals usually persistent, membranous, 0.2  $\times$  0.2 mm; styles persistent, becoming reflexed. Fruit splitting at maturity into 4 single-seeded mericarps. Mericarps  $\pm$  globular with attenuate neck formed from persistent style.

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North, South, Stewart, Chatham Islands.

## GENUS

Myriophyllum

## FAMILY

Haloragaceae



Mackenzie Basin. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 25/02/2016, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

## AUTHORITY

*Myriophyllum pedunculatum* subsp. *novae-zelandiae* Orchard

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and rooted pieces. must be kept moist. An interesting plant for a small pond or fish tank.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

## WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially Available

## ETYMOLOGY

**myriophyllum:** Many leaves

**pedunculatum:** Flowers stalked

**novae-zelandiae:** Of New Zealand

## NVS CODE

MYRPSN

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

## REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 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. Auckland conservation status information is sourced from the "[Conservation status of vascular plant species in Tāmaki Makaurau / Auckland](#)" Simpkins E et al. (2025) report.

Otago: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DPR, DPS, DPT, RR 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

Orchard, A.E. 1979: *Myriophyllum* (Haloragaceae) in Australasia. 1. New Zealand: a revision of the genus and a synopsis of the family. *Brunonia* 2: 247-287.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2009). Description based on Orchard (1979).

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myriophyllum-pedunculatum-subsp-novae-zelandiae/>

