Oxybasis ambigua

BIOSTATUS
Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: Sp, CI, DPR, DPS, DPT, PF, SO
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

GENUS
Oxybasis

FAMILY
Amaranthaceae

AUTHORITY
Oxybasis ambigua (R.Br.) de Lange et Mosyakin

SYNONYMS
Chenopodium ambiguum R.Br.; Chenopodium glaucum subsp. ambiguum Murr. et Thell.; Oxybasis glauca subsp. ambigua (R.Br.) Mosyakin

ENDEMIC TAXON
No

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Seeds are dispersed by wind and water (Thorsen et al., 2009).

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING
FACU: Facultative Upland
Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

ETYMOLOGY
ambigua: From the Latin ambiguus ‘ambiguous, uncertain’

NVS CODE
OXYAMB

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = c.32-36

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: DP, PD, SO
2012 | Not Threatened
2009 | Not Threatened
2004 | Not Threatened
Jump to current conservation status

Point Somes, Chatham islands. Photographer: John Sawyer, Licence: CC BY-NC.

Rekohu/Chatham Island. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 18/12/2020, Licence: CC BY-NC.

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Critical | Qualifiers: Sp, DPR, DPS, DPT, DE, EF, PF, RR, SO 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 Threatened – Regionally Endangered | Qualifiers: CI, DPS, DPT, NStr, PF, 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

Mosyakin SL, de Lange PJ. 2018. New combinations for three taxa of the *Oxybasis glauca* aggregate (Chenopodiaceae) from Australasia, East Asia, and South America. *Phytotaxa 350(3)*: 259–273. https://doi.org/10.11646/phytotaxa.350.3.5.
Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 11*: 285–309. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2009.06.001.

MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/oxybasis-ambigua/

PDF DATE

27 May 2026