

Pennantia corymbosa

COMMON NAMES

kaikōmako

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

A dense tangled shrub with zig-zagging branches bearing small leaves with 3-4 large lobes at the tip growing into a small tree bearing much larger leaves that still have small lobes at the tip (though these are less obvious). Juvenile leaves 7-15mm long, adult leaves 5cm long by 3cm wide.

FLOWER COLOURS

White

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Found throughout the North, South and Stewart Islands. Uncommon north of Auckland and on Stewart Island

GENUS

Pennantia

FAMILY

Pennantiaceae

AUTHORITY

Pennantia corymbosa J.R.Forst. et G.Forst.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

pennantia: After Pennant, a zoologist

corymbosa: Bearing flowers in corymbs

NVS CODE

PENCOR

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 50



Points Bush. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Karapoti Gorge, Akatarawa Forest. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 19/06/2010, Licence: CC BY.

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 Threatened – Regionally Endangered | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, PF, RR, RF [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 Not Threatened [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

[Beddie, A.D. 1958. Precocious fruiting of *Pennantia corymbosa*. Wellington Botanical Society Bulletin, 3-: 12-14](#)

[Gardner, R. 1998. No kaikomako \(*Pennantia corymbosa*\) on Great Barrier Island. Auckland Botanical Society Journal, 53: 75-76](#)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pennantia-corymbosa/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026