

Ranunculus amphitrichus

COMMON NAMES

waoriki

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial; rosettes tufted along creeping stems; nodes not usually bulbous. Basal leaves with slender erect or ascending petioles (20-)5-10(-150) mm long; lamina trifoliolate to palmatisect, glabrous, ± circular, 10-20 mm diameter; leaflets sessile, obtriangular, bluntly 3-fid up to ½ way, sometimes again bluntly toothed, ± equal. Leaves of flowering stems ternate with linear acute entire leaflets. Flowers 1-4(-7) per stem, 7-12 mm diameter; pedicels glabrous. Sepals spreading, glabrous. Petals (3-)4-5(-9), yellow, narrowly oblong, oblong to narrowly obovate, 2-4 mm long, shortly clawed; nectary single, 1.0-1.5 mm from petal base, with a short, tumid, semilunar scale. Receptacle with a basal collar of bristles. Achenes (6-)10-20(-30), hardly flattened, glabrous; body 1.5-2.0 mm long, obscurely wrinkled when ripe; beak straight or curved, 1.0-1.5 mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

From *R. glabrifolius* Hook., *R. amphitrichus* is distinguished by the collar of hairs at the base of the receptacle, the completely glabrous leaves, fewer petals with different nectary scales, and usually more achenes.

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand (North, South, Chatham Islands). Also Australia.

HABITAT

Coastal to montane. Often partially submerged in shallow water, wet grassland and lake, pond or tarn marginal turf communities. Sometimes in moist clearings within forest or tussock grassland.

GENUS

Ranunculus

FAMILY

Ranunculaceae

AUTHORITY

Ranunculus amphitrichus Colenso

SYNONYMS

Ranunculus rivularis Banks et Solander ex DC. nom. illeg.



Cultivated, Whanganui; flower in bud; ex-Paengaroa SR, Taihape. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 18/11/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Cultivated; bristles on receptacle below fruits; Whanganui; ex-Paengaroa SR, Taihape. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 04/12/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

(September-)October-January(-May)

FRUITING

October - June

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and by the division of whole plants. An attractive plant suitable for growing on the margin of a fish pond or slow-flowing stream. It is often sold for such purposes by mainstream garden centres.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

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

ETYMOLOGY

ranunculus: From the Latin 'rana' frog, meaning little frog and probably refers to the plants typical marshy habit where frogs abound

NVS CODE

RANAMP

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 96

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Threatened – Regionally Endangered | Qualifiers: CI, DPR, DPS, DPT, 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 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.

ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (10 February 2007). Description from fresh plants and herbarium specimens.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Ranunculus amphitrichus* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ranunculus-amphitrichus/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/ranunculus-amphitrichus/>

PDF DATE
08 June 2026