

Ranunculus glabrifolius

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 with rosettes tufted along a slender creeping rhizome usually with swollen nodes. Basal leaves on slender erect or ascending petioles 50-150(-250) mm long; lamina trifoliolate to palmatisect, usually with at least 1-2 hairs, sometimes more, \pm circular, or slightly broader than long, 10-30(-50) mm diameter; leaflets sessile, divided again to at least $\frac{1}{2}$ way, sometimes again toothed, \pm equal, the lateral leaflets sometimes divided to base; leaves of flowering stems smaller with 1-3 linear, acute, entire segments. Flowering stems erect to c.300 mm long (rarely sessile), 1-3(-5)-flowered, usually appressed-hirsute. Flowers 12-15(-20) mm diameter; pedicels glabrous. Sepals \pm recurved, glabrous or hairy. Petals 5-10(-15), 5-11 mm long, golden yellow, oblanceolate to obovate, shortly clawed; nectary single, 1-2 mm from petal base, pocket-like. Receptacle glabrous. Achenes 5-20, hardly flattened, glabrous; body 2.0-2.5 mm long; style straight or curved, 1.5-2.0 mm long.

SIMILAR TAXA

Superficially similar to *R. amphitrichus* from which it is only reliably distinguished in the field by the receptacle which is completely glabrous rather than furnished with a basal collar of bristly hairs.

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand (North, South, Stewart and 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 glabrifolius Hook.

SYNONYMS

Ranunculus rivularis var. *major* Benth.; *Ranunculus inundatus* R.Br. ex DC. p.p.; *Ranunculus rivularis* var. *inundatus* (R.Br. ex DC.) Rodway



In cultivation, ex Catlins Coast. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

October - January

FRUITING

December - May

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 has larger and more richly coloured flowers than *R. amphitrichus*.

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

glabrifolius: Hairless leaves

NVS CODE

RANGLA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 144

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 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 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

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

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

MORE INFORMATION

PDF DATE

08 June 2026