

# Ranunculus ternatifolius

## SYNONYMS

*Ranunculus trilobatus* Kirk non Kit. ex Schlecht.

## FAMILY

Ranunculaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Ranunculus ternatifolius* Kirk

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

RANTER

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 32

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: DP, EF, Sp

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North and South Islands. Known from two sites in the North Island (Erua, Makirikiri Tarns). In the South known from NW Nelson, Canterbury, Otago and Southland.

## HABITAT

Damp sites in forest, scrub and tussock grassland. Often associated with base-rich rocks and substrates.

## FEATURES

Diminutive, tufted, perennial stoloniferous herb forming diffuse to dense colonies. Leaves (1)-2-ternate, leaflets 91-125(-140) mm diam., long-stalked, entire or ternatifid, sparsely hairy. Flowers leaf-opposed, solitary, 3-4 mm diam., produced from stolons. Pedicels very short, sparsely hairy. Sepals spreading, hairy. Petals 5, yellow, lanceolate or narrow-obovate; nectary single, 1 mm from petal base. covered by small, round scale. receptacle hairy. Achenes (seeds) 5-15(-20), flattened, glabrous, beak curved, 0.5 mm long.

## SIMILAR TAXA

None

## FLOWERING

October to January (but sporadic flowering may occur throughout the year)

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow



*Ranunculus ternatifolius*. Photographer: Cathy Jones



*Ranunculus ternatifolius*. Photographer: Cathy Jones

## FRUITING

November to April

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Very easily grown from fresh seed and division of mature plants. However, plants are difficult to maintain, and are very prone to sudden collapse and are often afflicted with powdery mildew

## THREATS

Threatened throughout its range by competition from weeds, and habitat loss.

## ETYMOLOGY

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

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (1 February 2008). Description based on Webb et al. (1988).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Webb C.J., Sykes W.R., Garnock-Jones P.J. 1988: *Flora of New Zealand. Volume IV*. Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch.

## CITATION

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

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

## MORE INFORMATION

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