Rytidosperma nigricans

COMMON NAMES
bristle grass

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2023 | Not Threatened
Jump to previous conservation statuses

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Grasses

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. North Island, Tararua and Rimutaka Ranges.South Island along and mainly west of the main divide from Nelson to Southland. Stewart Island.

GENUS
Rytidosperma

FAMILY
Poaceae

AUTHORITY
Rytidosperma nigricans (Petrie) Connor et Edgar

SYNONYMS
Danthonia semiannularis var. nigricans Petrie, D. gracilis var. nigiricans (Petrie) Zotov, D. nigricans (Petrie) Calder, Notodanthonia nigricans (Petrie) Zotov, Thonandia nigricans (Petrie) H.P.Linder

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING
FACW: Facultative Wetland
Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands (non-wetlands).

WHERE TO BUY
Not commercially available.

ETYMOLOGY
rytidosperma: Wrinkled seed
nigricans: Blackish

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY
Key to the grasses of New Zealand

NVS CODE
RYTNIG

Floret. From a specimen collected by Pat Enright. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 09/03/2008, Licence: CC BY.

Panicles. From a specimen collected by Pat Enright. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 09/03/2008, Licence: CC BY.

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 24

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2017 | Not Threatened
2012 | Not Threatened
2009 | Not Threatened
2004 | Not Threatened
Jump to current conservation status

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES
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.

MORE INFORMATION
https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/rytidosperma-nigricans/

PDF DATE
25 May 2026