

Senecio diaschides

COMMON NAMES

fireweed

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

DISTRIBUTION

Inidgenous. New Zealand. North Island (Northland to the Waikato and East Cape thence disjunct to Wellington). Range actively spreading south.

GENUS

Senecio

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Senecio diaschides D.G.Drury

SYNONYMS

Senecio cahillii Belcher

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

YEAR NATURALISED

1975

ORIGIN

E. Australia

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Biennial to perennial, in harsh conditions often annual. Reproduces by seed which is dispersed by wind.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. Inclined to be weedy and aggressive in cultivation.



Hutt River Trail north of Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 30/04/2006, Licence: CC BY.



Senecio diaschides showing foliage and stem details. Hutt River Trail north of Stokes Valley, Lower Hutt. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 30/04/2006, Licence: CC BY.

ETYMOLOGY

senecio: From the Latin senex 'old man' (probably referring to the bearded seeds)

NVS CODE

SENDIA

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: TO

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Declining | Qualifiers: DPS, 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.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/senecio-diaschides/>

PDF DATE

27 May 2026