Senecio matatini subsp. discoideus

BIOSTATUS
Native – Endemic taxon

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

CATEGORY
Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

FLOWER COLOURS
Yellow

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. North Island, Kaweka, Kaimanawa and Ruahine Ranges. South Island, east of the main divide, throughout.

GENUS
Senecio

FAMILY
Asteraceae

AUTHORITY
Senecio matatini subsp. discoideus (Cheeseman) Courtney, de Lange & Pelser

SYNONYMS
Senecio lautus var. discoideus Cheeseman, Senecio glaucophyllus subsp. discoideus (Cheeseman) Ornduff

TAXONOMIC NOTES
The *Senecio glaucophyllus* complex, of which S. matatini is one representitive, was revised by Liew et al. 2021. For more information on the group please refer to this paper (reference below)

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE
Easy from fresh seed and semi-hardwood cuttings. Needs full sun and excellent drainage.

ETYMOLOGY
senecio: From the Latin senex ‘old man’ (probably referring to the bearded seeds)
matatini: Te reo Māori adjective for ‘complicated’ and both an adjective and noun for ‘composite’ and ‘complex’. It alludes to the complicated nature of the historical and current taxonomy of the Senecio glaucophyllus complex, and to the daisy family to which it belongs
discoideus: From the Latin discus, a plate-like object thrown for sport, meaning disc- or orb-shaped, i.e. with some perceptible thickness, parallel faces and a rounded border

NVS CODE
SENMSD

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 100

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 At Risk – Regionally Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DPT, DPS, Sp 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.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Liew, C.-S.; Courtney, S.P,; de Lange, P.J.; Pelser, P.B. 2021: Taxonomic realignment of *Senecio glaucophyllus* (Asteraceae; Senecioneae) necessitates a new name for a widespread New Zealand species. *New Zealand Journal of Botany 59(3)*: 376–396.
Ornduff, R. 1960: An interpretation of the *Senecio lautus* complex in New Zealand. *Transactions of the Royal Society of New Zealand 88*: 63-77.
Webb CJ, Sykes WR, Garnock-Jones PJ 1988. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. IV. Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch

MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/senecio-matatini-subsp-discoideus/

PDF DATE

27 May 2026