

# Senecio matatini subsp. matatini

## BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DPT, RR

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## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

## DISTRIBUTION

South Island: From the Goulard Downs (North-West Nelson) in the north, south to about Lewis Pass. The species is restricted to the western and central part of the northern South Island.

## SUBSTRATE DETAILS

Calcareous substrates including limestone and marble, and calcareous mudstone and siltstone

## GENUS

Senecio

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

*Senecio matatini* subsp. *matatini* Liew, Courtney, de Lange & Pelsner

## SYNONYMS

*S. lautus* var. *montanus* Cheeseman, *Senecio glaucophyllus* Cheeseman subsp. *glaucophyllus*

## TAXONOMIC NOTES

A very distinctive plant perhaps closely allied to *S. banksii* s.s. The *Senecio glaucophyllus* complex, including *S. matatini*, 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. Does best in a pot in soil enriched with lime. Inclined to be short-lived.

## 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

## NVS CODE

SENMSM

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n=100

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR

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## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Liew, C.-S.; Courtney, S.P.; de Lange, P.J.; Pelter, 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-matatini/>

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026