

Shawia avicenniifolia

COMMON NAMES

mountain akeake

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Bushy small tree bearing leathery narrow pointed dark green glossy leaves that are white underneath and large clusters of white daisy-like flowers that develop into fluffy seeds. Leaves variable, 5-10cm long, much longer than wide, edge nearly smooth. Flower petals white.

FLOWER COLOURS

White

GENUS

Shawia

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Shawia avicenniifolia Raoul

SYNONYMS

Olearia avicenniifolia (Raoul) Hook.f.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

shawia: After Thomas Shaw (1694-1751), English scholar and traveller.

avicenniifolia: Leaves like mangrove (*Avicennia*)

NVS CODE

OLEAVI

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108



Olearia avicenniifolia. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Cypsela. In cultivation. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 22/04/2007, Licence: CC BY.

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.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Saldivia, P.; Nicol, D.A. 2025: Reinstatement, broader circumscription, and infrageneric classification of *Shawia* (Astereae, Celmisiinae), a large woody genus endemic to Australasia. *Phytoneuron* 49: 1–43.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/shawia-avicenniifolia/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026