

Shawia cymbifolia

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

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CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Yellowish shrub bearing small thick leaves that have a rolled in edge (edges almost meet on underside) and a white underside inhabiting eastern South Island mountains. Twigs fuzzy yellow. Young growth sticky. Leaves 6–12 mm long by 2–3 mm wide, blunt. Flowers white with yellow centre. Covering surface of shrub. Seeds fluffy.

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

GENUS

Shawia

FAMILY

Asteraceae

AUTHORITY

Shawia cymbifolia (Hook.f.) Saldivia & Nicol

SYNONYMS

Olearia nummulariifolia var. *cymbifolia* Hook.f.; *Olearia cymbifolia* (Hook.f.) Cheeseman

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ETYMOLOGY

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

NVS CODE

OLECYM

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 108

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)



Olearia cymbifolia, Hawkdun Range.
Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.



McKerrow Range, Otago. Photographer: Jesse Bythell, Date taken: 10/12/2012, Licence: CC BY-NC.

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT, NStr, 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

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-cymbifolia/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026