

Triglochin striata

COMMON NAMES

triglochin

BIOSTATUS

Native

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Red/Pink, White

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Fleshy, grass-like tufted or sward forming perennial herb. Bases not bulbous, roots distinctly fibrous. Leaves 10–400 x 0.3–2.0 mm, dark green, reddish green or brown-green, ligule rounded to subacute; lamina linear, linear-filiform, flattened toward subacute apex. Inflorescence racemose, 10–200 mm long; pedicels 1–3 mm long, set at a rather wide angle to axis. Flowers (1–2) mm long; stilar apices green or reddish-green, slightly spreading. fruit 2–3 mm long, dark green, reddish green to brown, subglobose, comprising 3 keeled fertile follicles and 3 narrower sterile carpels, all rather loosely attached to carpophore.

SIMILAR TAXA

Triglochin palustris L. is superficially similar. However, this is a taller (up to 800 mm), bulbous, plant with narrow-linear fruits with follicles that are not keeled and narrow to an acutely pointed base, and which separate from the base first, splitting widely such that they resemble a small arrow head. The leaves are distinctly semi-cylindric rather than flattened toward their apices.

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous to New Zealand. Three Kings, North, South, Stewart, and Chatham Islands.

Also present in South America, America, Africa, Australia and south Portugal.

HABITAT

Mainly coastal in damp muddy ground, salt marsh, estuaries, and damp seepages on coastal cliffs, boulder beaches and within damp coastal turf. Also found inland around lake margins (in marginal turf communities) and in other suitable damp places. Sometimes even in tall forest.

GENUS

Triglochin

FAMILY

Juncaginaceae

AUTHORITY

Triglochin striata Ruiz et Pav.

SYNONYMS

Triglochin flaccidum A.Cunn., *Triglochin striatum* Ruiz et Pav.



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ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

FLOWERING

September - January

FRUITING

October - May

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown in a pot partially submerged in water, or in a sunny permanently damp or waterlogged soil.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

PLANT OF THE MONTH

This plant has been featured as a Plant of the Month – see [Trilepidea: NZPCN newsletter for December 2019](#) for the full story.

ETYMOLOGY

triglochis: Three-pointed

striata: Striated

NVS CODE

TRISTA

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 24

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DPS, DPT 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.

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

Moore, L.B.; Edgar, E. 1970: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970).

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/triglochis-striata/>

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