

Veronica calycina

FAMILY

Plantaginaceae

AUTHORITY

Veronica calycina R.Br.

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

No

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: SO

DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: North Island (Bay of Plenty, Orokawa Bay). Common in Australia.

HABITAT

Open coastal forest amongst grasses and boulders.

FLOWERING

February

THREATS

Unknown. First collected from New Zealand in 1906 but those gatherings were misidentified as *V. plebeia*, it was subsequently rediscovered at the same location in 2010. However, a full survey for the species was not then made, and the identity of the gathering (and those made in 1906) was only confirmed in 2013. Whilst threats to *V. calycina* are unknown, it was listed by the Vascular Plant assessment panel as 'Threatened – Nationally Critical' because of the very small population that would be highly susceptible to any adverse pressures.

ETYMOLOGY

veronica: Named after Saint Veronica, who gave Jesus her veil to wipe his brow as he carried the cross through Jerusalem, perhaps because the common name of this plant is 'speedwell'. The name Veronica is often believed to derive from the Latin vera 'truth' and iconica 'image', but it is actually derived from the Macedonian name Berenice which means 'bearer of victory'.

calycina: From the Greek kalux (in Latin calyx) 'case of a bud' or 'husk', meaning having a persistent or well developed calyx

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/veronica-calycina/>

