

Zotovia acicularis

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Zotovia acicularis Edgar et Connor

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

Yes

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

ZOTACI

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

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

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Data Deficient

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Known only from Fiordland National Park, where it has been collected from Lyall Bay, (Thompson Sound), All Round Point (Secretary Island), and Lake Mike at elevations of 670–1100 m.

HABITAT

Very little is known about this grass, which is only known from three locations. Herbarium specimens indicate that it grows on rocks and wet shady bluffs.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small, 3–13 cm tufted, dense but fine leaved grass with needle-like leaf tips, arising from slender rhizomes. **Leaf-sheath** to 8 mm, keeled, hairless, wider than blade. **Ligule** 0.5 mm, tapered, finely hairy. **Leaf-blade** 1–2.6 cm × 0.5 mm diameter, tightly inrolled, light green with cream cross-veinlets, hairless, pinched into curved, pale, needle-like tip; margins with numerous minute prickly-teeth. **Culms** slender, minutely hairy below inflorescence. **Inflorescence** 1 cm long made up of 3–6 spikelets, pedicels with dense, minute prickly-teeth. **Spikelets** 5–7.5 mm. **Glumes** 2–3.5 mm, ½ length of spikelet, lanceolate, subacute, keeled above, hairless, lower 1-nerved, upper 3-nerved. **Anthers** 1.1–1.5 mm. **Stigmas** plumose. **Seeds** as yet unknown.

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

[Key to the grasses of New Zealand](#)

SIMILAR TAXA

Zotovia accicularis is only likely to be confused with *Z. colensoi* from which it differs by its more compacted, low 2–4–(8) cm, mat-forming habit, and needle-like leaf tips.



FLOWERING

No information available

FRUITING

No information available

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Like the two other species of *Zotovia*, *Z. acicularis* is probably easy to grow from rooted pieces and the division of whole plants. Fresh seed should germinate easily.

ETYMOLOGY

acicularis: From the Latin *acicula* 'small pin' refers to things which are needle-like, needle-shaped, stiff or pointed

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/zotovia-acicularis/>