

Zoysia pauciflora

COMMON NAMES

zoysia

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Three Kings Islands, North Island, from North Cape to Kawhia Harbour, near Cambridge and the Bay of Plenty.

HABITAT

Mainly coastal, but inland in the Hamilton Basin on the banks of the Waikato River. In sandy, and rocky ground, in saltmarshes and often under scrub or under trees.

GENUS

Zoysia

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Zoysia pauciflora Mez

SYNONYMS

Zoysia planifolia Zotov

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed and rooted pieces, an excellent mat-forming grass, ideal of high traffic sites such as lawns, especially in dry climates. Cold sensitive.

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

ETYMOLOGY

zoysia: Named for Karl von Zois (or Zoys), 18th century Austrian botanist

pauciflora: Few-flowered

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

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



Whangapoua, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Zoysia pauciflora. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

NVS CODE

ZOYPAU

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 40

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Auckland: 2025 | Regionally At Risk – Regionally Declining | Qualifiers: DPR, DPS, DPT, PF, RR 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.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/zoysia-pauciflora/>

PDF DATE

08 June 2026