

Myosotis antarctica subsp. traillii

COMMON NAMES

pygmy forget-me-not

BIOSTATUS

Native

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Ground hugging rosette herb in 1cm to several cm clumps. Lateral branched few to many, prostrate, up to 9cm long. Leaves oval to spoon-shaped; upper surface hairy except towards base, lower surface almost hairless. Leaf hairs stiff and spreading. Flowers white to cream, 3mm diameter.

FLOWER COLOURS

Cream, White

SIMILAR TAXA

Myosotis brevis. *Myosotis pygmaea* has larger flowers than *Myosotis brevis*.

DISTRIBUTION

North Island south from the Coromandel Peninsula (a small islet near Coromandel Harbour), including Hawke's Bay, Castlepoint, South Taranaki Coast and near Cape Palliser. South Island, south from Nelson, mainly east of main divide.

HABITAT

Open coastal habitats to upland grassland, herbfield, open rocky, sandy places and stream sides. Sea level to 1200m a.s.l.

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Threatened – Nationally Vulnerable | Qualifiers: Sp, CI, DPT

THREATS

The main threat throughout this species range is loss of habitat, caused by land development, weed invasion and coastal erosion.

DETAILED TAXONOMY

FAMILY

Boraginaceae

AUTHORITY

Myosotis antarctica subsp. *traillii* Kirk

SYNONYMS

Myosotis pygmaea Colenso; *Myosotis ramificata* G.Simpson; *Myosotis pygmaea* Colenso var. *pygmaea*

TAXONOMIC NOTES

The autonym *Myosotis pygmaea* var. *pygmaea* became unnecessary when de Lange & Barkla elevated the other varieties of *M. pygmaea* to species rank in de Lange et al. (2010).

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes



Long Point, Catlins. Photographer: John Barkla, Date taken: 01/01/2013, Licence: CC BY.



Myosotis pygmaea var. *pygmaea* - Bull Creek. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ECOLOGY

FLOWERING

(August-) September to December (however sporadic flowering may occur throughout the year)

FRUITING

September to January (however fruits may be found throughout the year)

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. However, plants are short-lived and prone to fungal diseases in humid climates.

OTHER INFORMATION

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

antarctica: Antarctic

traillii: After Charles Trail, Stewart Islander

NVS CODE

MYOPYG

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 44

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: Sp

2012 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: Sp

2009 | At Risk – Declining | Qualifiers: Sp

2004 | Serious Decline

REFERENCING AND CITATIONS

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

de Lange, P.J.; Heenan, P.B.; Norton, D.A.; Rolfe, J.R.; Sawyer, J.W.D. 2010: Threatened Plants of New Zealand. Canterbury University Press, Christchurch.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (30 August 2003). For more information see Allan (1961) and de Lange et al. (2010)

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-antarctica-subsp-traillii/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-antarctica-subsp-traillii/>

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