

Myriophyllum pedunculatum subsp. novae-zelandiae

FAMILY

Haloragaceae

AUTHORITY

Myriophyllum pedunculatum subsp. novae-zelandiae Orchard

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

MYRPED

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North, South, Stewart, Chatham Islands.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

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



Chatham Island. Photographer: John Sawyer, Licence: CC BY-NC.



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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial mat-forming herb, aquatic to terrestrial, stems green, erect or prostrate, 20-100(-150) mm long, rooting at lower nodes, usually ± unbranched apart from rhizomatous portions at base. Leaves all entire, linear, 2-6 mm long, 0.5 mm wide, decussate, tip blunt to acute, sometimes almost acuminate, usually with a ± well defined midrib. Hydathodes 0-2. Inflorescence a terminal spike with the flowers borne singly in axils of the upper leaves which are indistinguishable from the other leaves. Each flower subtended by 2 bracteoles which are deltoid, 0.6-0.7(-1.3) × 0.2-0.3 mm, acuminate. Flowers unisexual, males and females often borne on separate stems, but if together, then males borne in upper axils, females below. Male flowers 4-merous, sessile or on pedicel up to 1 cm long. Sepals 4, oblanceolate, lanceolate to narrowly ovate or obovate, 0.9-1.4 × 0.3-0.5 mm, acute or obtuse, sometimes shortly mucronate, margins entire or minutely denticulate, Petals 4, red, hooded, weakly keeled, 1.3-1.7(-2.5) × 0.8 mm, reflexed at anthesis. Stamens 8; filaments short, lengthening to 2.5 mm at anthesis; anthers linear-oblong, 0.9-1.1(-1.6) × 0.4 mm, 4-locular, shortly apiculate. Styles and ovary 0. Female flowers 4-merous, on pedicel 0.2-0.5(-1.0) mm long. Sepals 4, deltoid, 0.2 mm long, 0.2 mm wide. Petals 0. Stamens 0. Styles 4, alternating with sepals, 0.4 mm long, stigmas fimbriate, white, sometimes grading to pale pink. Ovary obpyriform, 0.6 × 0.5 mm, channelled opposite sepals, 4-locular. Fruit sessile or shortly pedunculate, red-purple, ovoid to obpyriform, 1.0-1.5 × 1.1-1.2 mm, deeply channelled opposite sepals, smooth to weakly striated, not verrucose; sepals usually persistent, membranous, 0.2 × 0.2 mm; styles persistent, becoming reflexed. Fruit splitting at maturity into 4 single-seeded mericarps. Mericarps ± globular with attenuate neck formed from persistent style.

FLOWER COLOURS

Red/Pink, White

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and rooted pieces. must be kept moist. An interesting plant for a small pond or fish tank.

ETYMOLOGY

myriophyllum: Many leaves

pedunculatum: Flowers stalked

novae-zelandiae: Of New Zealand

WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially Available

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2009). Description based on Orchard (1979).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Orchard, A.E. 1979: *Myriophyllum* (Haloragaceae) in Australasia. 1. New Zealand: a revision of the genus and a synopsis of the family. *Brunonia* 2: 247-287.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myriophyllum-pedunculatum-subsp-novae-zelandiae/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myriophyllum-pedunculatum-subsp-novae-zelandiae/>

PDF DATE

17 September 2024