

Cardamine corymbosa

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

SIMPLIFIED DESCRIPTION

Forming small rosettes, sometimes with offsets resulting in patches a metre or more in diameter, leaves more or less appressed to the ground. Flowering stalks with one or few flowers.

FLOWER COLOURS

White

SIMILAR TAXA

C. heleniae, but its leaves are conspicuously hairy.

DISTRIBUTION

Throughout much of lowland to montane NZ, often on fertile soils e.g. river flats and limestone.

HABITAT

Heenan (2017) stated “*C. corymbosa* occurs in a wide variety of habitats, including crevices, ledges and shaded overhangs on rock outcrops and bluffs, among rocky debris, on stream banks, open sites in forest and forest margins, among herbs and grasses in turf vegetation, in muddy hollows, among damp rocks, on seasonally dry or periodically inundated surfaces of tarn and lake margins, and open and dry areas under manuka and kanuka forest. It often occurs on disturbed surfaces associated with bird burrows, margins of scree, eroded cliff edges, slips and vehicle tracks.” It can be a weed in urban areas, in lawns, paths, bare soil and in garden pots and glasshouses.

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

DETAILED TAXONOMY

FAMILY

Brassicaceae

AUTHORITY

Cardamine corymbosa Hook.f.

SYNONYMS

Cardamine uniflora (Hook.f.) Allan . Heenan(2017) suggests there may be more than one taxon in *C. corymbosa*, as he defined it.

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No



Gordon Park Scenic Reserve, Whanganui. Nov 2006. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Photographer: Peter B. Heenan, Date taken: 03/09/2009, Licence: CC BY.

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

ECOLOGY

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Seeds are dispersed by ballistic projection, water and attachment (Thorsen et al., 2009).

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).

OTHER INFORMATION

ETYMOLOGY

cardamine: From the Greek name kárdamon, referring to an Indian spice

corymbosa: Bearing flowers in corymbs

NVS CODE

CARCOY

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 48

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2024 | Regionally Not Threatened

REFERENCING AND CITATIONS

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora.

Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

HEENAN, P.B. (2017). A taxonomic revision of Cardamine L. (Brassicaceae) in New Zealand. (Phytotaxa 330)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/cardamine-corymbosa/>

PDF DATE

11 March 2025