

# Festuca novae-zelandiae

## COMMON NAMES

fescue tussock, hard tussock

## SYNONYMS

*Festuca ovina* subsp. *matthewsii* Hack.; *Festuca ovina* var. *novae-zelandiae* (Hack.) Cheeseman; *Festuca ovina* subsp. *novae-zelandiae* var. *eu-novae-zelandiae* Howarth; *Festuca ovina* subsp. *novae-zelandiae* var. *novae-zelandiae* subvar. *novae-zelandiae*; *Festuca ovina* subsp. *novae-zelandiae* var. *novae-zelandiae* subvar. *pruinosa* Howarth

## FAMILY

Poaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Festuca novae-zelandiae* (Hack.) Cockayne

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

## NVS CODE

FESNOV

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 42

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

UPL: Obligate Upland

Rarely is a hydrophyte, almost always in uplands (non-wetlands).

## MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

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

## LIFE CYCLE

Florets are dispersed by wind, water and attachment (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## ETYMOLOGY

**festuca:** From the Latin *festuca* 'stem' or 'blade of grass'

**novae-zelandiae:** Of New Zealand



Long Gully, Wanaka. Photographer: John Barkla, Date taken: 01/03/2013, Licence: CC BY.



*Festuca novaezelandiae*. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## **CULTIVATION**

Commonly sold by retail plant nurseries, often erroneously as *Carex novae-zelandiae*.

## **REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING**

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/festuca-novae-zelandiae/>

## **PDF DATE**

17 September 2024