

Asperula perpusilla

COMMON NAMES

Dwarf bedstraw

BIOSTATUS

Native – Endemic taxon

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2023 | Not Threatened

[Jump to previous conservation statuses](#)

CATEGORY

Vascular

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

FLOWER COLOURS

White

GENUS

Asperula

FAMILY

Rubiaceae

AUTHORITY

Asperula perpusilla Hook.f.

SYNONYMS

Galium perpusillum (Hook.f.) Allan

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Mericarps are dispersed by attachment and possibly also wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

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

ETYMOLOGY

asperula: From the Greek asper 'rough' referring to the leaves

perpusilla: Tiny, very small

NVS CODE

ASPPER

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 88



Hooker valley, December. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Stevensons Island, Lake Wanaka. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2017 | Not Threatened

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

[Jump to current conservation status](#)

REGIONAL CONSERVATION STATUSES

Otago: 2025 | Regionally Not Threatened Help

The regional threat classification system leverages off the national assessments in the NZTCS, providing information relevant for the regional context. Otago conservation status information is sourced from the "[Conservation Status of Indigenous Vascular Plants in Otago, 2025](#)" Jarvie S et al. (2025) report.

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* 11: 285-309.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/asperula-perpusilla/>

PDF DATE

25 May 2026