

# Gaultheria nubicola

## SYNONYMS

*Pernettya alpina* Franklin

## FAMILY

Ericaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Gaultheria nubicola* D.J.Middleton

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

GAUNUB

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Creeping woody herb to 1 m wide bearing closely-spaced small oval thick leaves with single bell-shaped small white flowers scattered among plant. Twigs not visible. Leaves with 3-5 small dark-tipped notches along margin. Fruit small, 3-4 mm wide, white or red.

## DISTRIBUTION

Inhabits mountains of the South Island.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

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

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## LIFE CYCLE

Fleshy berries are dispersed by invertebrate frugivory (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## ETYMOLOGY

**gaultheria**: Named after Jean François Gaultier of Quebec (6 Oct 1708-10 July 1756) by the Scandinavian Pehr Kalm in 1748.

**nubicola**: Cloud dweller



Old Man range, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Old Man Range, January. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

## 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/gaultheria-nubicola/>