

Anthosachne sacandros

SYNONYMS

Elymus sacandros Connor

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Anthosachne sacandros (Connor) Barkworth et S.W.L.Jacobs

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

ANTSAC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 42

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR, Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, RR, Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Marlborough only.

HABITAT

Primarily coastal but extending inland in some locations. On limestone cliffs and river terraces, from sea level to 900 m.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Tufted or open branched. **Leaf-sheath** 30–120 mm, underside striate, glabrous, upper surface clad with minute prickles. **Ligule** 0.2–0.3 mm, fused to leaf-sheath margins. **Leaf-blade** 100–800 × 0.5–0.7 mm diam., filiform, underside glaucous, ribbed, upper surface with dense weft of 1 mm long hairs at base. **Culm** 150–400 mm, erect. **Inflorescence** 50–200 mm, of up to 8 spikelets. **Spikelets** 40–60 mm, of 6–8 florets. **Glumes** unequal, extended as 3 mm long prickle-toothed awn; lower 4.5–6.5 mm, 3–5-nerved, upper 7–11 mm, 5–7-nerved. **Lemma** with central, prominent nerve continued as recurved awn 25–60 mm long. **Palea** 10–11.5 mm, apex pointed, bifid. **Rachilla** 2–3 mm, hairy. **Callus** 1–1.5 mm, hairy, hairs greater than or equal in length callus. **Anthers** 3.8–5.5 mm.

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

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



SIMILAR TAXA

Perhaps closest to the Southern Canterbury and Central Otago endemic *A. falcis*. Distinguished from that species by the erect growth -form, long, thin, ribbed, glaucous leaf-blades and by the dense weft of hairs at the leaf-blade/ligule junction. Superficially similar in appearance to *A. solandri*, from which it can be distinguished by the narrow, involute leaves that have a dense weft of hairs on the inside when unrolled, and by the hairier and longer callus and rachilla.

FLOWERING

October–February

FRUITING

December–May

LIFE CYCLE

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed and rooted pieces. Prefers a sunny aspect in free draining soil enriched with lime or dolomite.

THREATS

A rather narrow range endemic which nevertheless can at times be locally abundant.

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange June 2005. Description adapted from Edgar & Connor (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Barkworth ME, Jacobs SWL. 2011: The Triticeae (Gramineae) in Australasia. *Telopea* 13: 37–56.

Edgar E, Connor HE. 2000. Flora of New Zealand. Vol. V. Grasses. Christchurch, Manaaki Whenua Press. 650 p.

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.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Anthosachne sacandros* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/anthosachne-sacandros/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/anthosachne-sacandros/>