

# Scaevola gracilis

## COMMON NAME

Scaevola

## SYNONYMS

*Scaevola porrecta* A.C.Sm.

## FAMILY

Goodeniaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Scaevola gracilis* Hook.f.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 48

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, SO?

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR, SO

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: OL, TO

2004 | Range Restricted

## DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: Kermadec Islands group (Raoul and Macauley Islands). Also present on the Ha"apai Group (Kao and Tofua) in the northern Tonga Group

## HABITAT

Coastal to lowland. A primary coloniser of bare rock, boulder field, sand dunes, talus slopes and cliff faces - also growing around active fumaroles.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

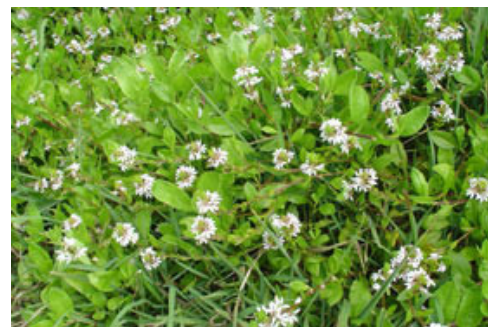
Creeping, prostrate to suberect, semi-woody shrub forming patches up to 2 × 1 m. Branches widely spreading, clad in long silky hairs; branchlets slightly zigzag, hairs long, silky, ± appressed. Leaves on pilose, dark green to red-green flattened petioles up to 25 mm long, axils villous. Lamina 20-90 × 10-35 mm long, obliquely lanceolate-oblong to obovate, base narrowly cuneate, apex acute, upper ½ - 1/3 serrate-dentate; dark green to yellow green, sometimes reddish green or streaked with red, silky-hairy. Flowers usually solitary, subsessile, up to 25 mm across, faintly fragrant. Calyx cupular, indistinctly lobed. Corolla white with yellow throat; tube short, villous; lobes narrow-oblong, mucronate. Stamens < tube; style pilose; pollen-cup with fimbriate margins. Drupe white, fleshy, 10.0-10.5 × 8.0-10.5 mm, ovoid to subglobose. Seeds compressed, c.3 mm. long

## SIMILAR TAXA

None.



Taken in December. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Raoul island. Photographer: Bec Stanley, Licence: CC BY-SA.

## FLOWERING

Throughout the year

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## FRUITING

Throughout the year

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from semi-hardwood cuttings and fresh seed. Plants can be induced to layer. An attractive ground cover for a sunny, well drained soil. Excellent as in a hanging basket or tub. Cold sensitive.

## THREATS

A naturally uncommon species confined in the New Zealand Botanical Region to the Kermadec Islands, where it is locally abundant.

## ETYMOLOGY

**gracilis**: Slender

## ATTRIBUTION

Description modified from Allan (1961).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/scaevola-gracilis/>