

Callitriche aucklandica

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Plantaginaceae

AUTHORITY

Callitriche aucklandica R.Mason

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

CALAUC

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 40

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

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

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

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

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: IE

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. Auckland Islands only

HABITAT

Coastal to montane on exposed, in pools and on sodden peat, in heavy shade under shrubs and tussocks. Often near bird colonies but also common on exposed mud within forest and scrub.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial, creeping bright green to dark green fleshy to membranous herb. Stems rather lax, sprawling up to 300 mm long. Leaves on broad, membranous fused petioles; lamina fleshy, 3.6-8 x 1.2-4 mm, dark green to bright green, spatulate. Flowers solitary or in pairs, ebracteate. Filaments to 9 mm long, tapering from broad base. Mericarps more or less elliptic, obovate-elliptic or obovate, laterally compressed, 1.0-1.6 mm long; surface colliculate or reticulate, dull, pale orange-yellow, medium to light brown or grey brown.

SIMILAR TAXA

Closest to *C. antarctica* Hegelm from which it differs by its larger size, fleshy rather than succulent leaves, lax rather than erect branches, broad, connate petioles smaller leaves (3.6-8 x 1.2-4 cf. 2.5-10 x 1.5-4.8 mm), and keeled and winged rather than rounded mericarps.

FLOWERING

October - November



FRUITING

November - April

LIFE CYCLE

Mericarps possibly by water and attachment (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Probably easy. However it is currently not in cultivation.

THREATS

Not Threatened. Listed because it is endemic to the Auckland Islands. On these islands it is abundant.

ETYMOLOGY

callitriche: From the Greek kalli 'beautiful' and thrix 'hair', referring to the beautiful stems

aucklandica: Of the Auckland Islands

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange for NZPCN (1 June 2013)

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 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/callitriche-aucklandica/>