

# Clematis afoliata

## COMMON NAME

leafless clematis

## FAMILY

Ranunculaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Clematis afoliata* Buchanan

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

## NVS CODE

CLEAFO

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 16

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: DP

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## HABITAT

Often found in open rocky shrublands and, in South Island also in tussock grasslands.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stems grow up to 3m long and are stiff, wiry and grooved. These stems often form large bundles with an appearance like a large tangled wire or thick string. Branches are 3-4 mm in diameter and finely grooved and bound together by leaf tendrils. The leaves are severely reduced to petioles.

## FLOWERING

October - November

## FLOWER COLOURS

Green, White

## FRUITING

December - January

## LIFE CYCLE

Pappate achenes are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).



Waipapa Stream, Wellington south coast.  
Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken:  
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## THREATS

Not Threatened although in some regions the open rocky habitats are subject to development pressure. Competition with naturalised plants also poses a threat to regeneration of this plant in some areas.

## ETYMOLOGY

**clematis**: From the Greek klema 'vine', alluding to the vine-like habit of many species

**afoliata**: From the Latin a + folius 'without leaves', 'leafless'

## 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* 11: 285-309

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Clematis afoliata* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/clematis-afoliata/> (Date website was queried)

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/clematis-afoliata/>