Clematis petriei

SYNONYMS
None

FAMILY
Ranunculaceae

AUTHORITY
Clematis petriei Allan

FLORA CATEGORY
Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON
Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS
No

ENDEMIC FAMILY
No

STRUCTURAL CLASS
Lianes & Related Trailing Plants - Dicotyledons

NVS CODE
CLEPET

CHROMOSOME NUMBER
2n = 16

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS
2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: Sp

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES
2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: Sp
2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon
2004 | Sparse

Castle Hill. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 31/10/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.

Castle Hill. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 31/10/2022, Licence: CC BY-NC.

DISTRIBUTION
Endemic. South Island, eastern from the Awatere River (Marlborough) south to Central Canterbury (Waimakariri and upper Rakaia Rivers).

HABITAT
Lowland to montane within inland (intermontane) basins. Usually in grey scrub and associated sparse treeland developed on river terraces or on colluvium, or at the bases of semi-stable alluvial fans. Sometimes found in grey scrub that has developed below semi-stable talus and scree slopes.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Evergreen, woody dioecious vine usuually found twinning through shrubs within grey scrub, or within small trees along alluvial flats. Stems up to 2 m long and 5-6 mm diameter, ribbed, sparsely hairy when young, glabrate to glbarous when mature, ascending and spreading. leaves 3-foliolate, subcoriaceous to coriaceous, green to dark green. Leaflets 10-30 x 4-18 mm, simple to pinnate; broadly ovate to entire, crenate to deeply pinnatifid, apices of leaflets and pinnae apiculate, bases often oblique, attenuate to truncate; petioles andpetiolules 10-25 mm long, channelled, glabrous to sparsely hairy, twinning. Inflorescences axilalry; flowers solitary, or in 2-6-flowered clusters in leaf axils, or in dichasial cymes of 5-10; flowers 12-35 mm diameter. Pedicels 10-40 mm, hairy; bracts 6-14 x 1.7-6 mm. inserted about middle of pedicel, leaf-like, fused, spathulate, tinged red at base, apex obtuse or rounded both surfaces sparsely to moderately hairy. Male flowers with sepals 6-8, 5.5-20 x 1.7-9 mm, yellow-green, narrowly elliptic, elliptic, lanceolate to ovate, undersides covered with pilose to villous hairs, upper surface glabrous, apex subacute to obtuse; stamens 14-24, glabrous, filaments 1.8-7.4 mm; anthers 2-2.3 x 0.6 mm, linear-oblong, cream. Female flowers with sepals 6-8, 6-15 x 3.5-5 mm, yellow-green, narrowly elliptic, elliptic, lanceolate to ovate, undersides pilose to villous, upper surface glabrous, apex subacute to obtuse; carpels 30-40, ovary 1.2 x 0.4 mm, glabrous; style 4.4.-5.3 x 1.2-0.4 mm, curved; staminodes 6-12 in outer whorl only. Achenes 3.5-4.4 x 1.5-2.3 mm, chesnut-brown, glabrous, pappus hairs spreading.

SIMILAR TAXA

Allied to *C. forsteri*, and often included in this species by past treatments (which adopted a very broad circumscription for the species). *Clematis petrei* differs from *C. forsteri* by its fruity rather than spicy-scented flowers; uniformly yellow green rather than cream and basally red-brown coloured sepals; glabrous rather than hairy upper sepal surface; chestnut-brown rather than light to dark brown (red-brown) coloured, glabrous instead of finely hairy achenes; and distinctly spathulate rather than linear to elliptic, obtuse floral bracts with obtuse or rounded rather than acute to obtuse apices.

FLOWERING

October - January

FLOWER COLOURS

Green, Yellow

FRUITING

December - March

LIFE CYCLE

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

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown but resents humidity and water logged soils. Does best in a free draining, fertile soil with a cool root run and plenty of sun. Can be grown from fresh seed and semi-hardwood cuttings.

THREATS

Widespread, often sparsely distributed but at times it can be locally common.

ETYMOLOGY

clematis: From the Greek klema ‘vine’, alluding to the vine-like habit of many species
petriei: Named after Donald Petrie (1846 -1925), Scottish born Otago botanist

ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange (1 August 2003). Description from Heenan & Cartman (2000).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan, P.B.; Cartman, J. 2000: Reinstatement of *Clematis petriei* (Ranunculaceae), and typification and variation of *C. forsteri*. *New Zealand Journal of Botany 38(4)*: 575-585.
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 petriei Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/clematis-petriei/ (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/clematis-petriei/