

# Convolvulus verecundus f. glaberrimus

## SYNONYMS

None - first described in 2019

## FAMILY

Convolvulaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Convolvulus verecundus* f. *glaberrimus* Heenan et Molloy

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## INTERIM CONSERVATION STATUS

2019 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Interim

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Scrambling plant allied to *Convolvulus verecundus* f. *verecundus* from which it differs by the brown-green, glabrous to glabrate leaves, with prominent and strongly translucent veins, and undulating to occasionally sinuate leaf margins.

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, North Otago, Awahokomo.

## HABITAT

Limestone endemic. Known from one location where it grows on ledges, cracks and crevices infilled with limestone fragments, and on shallow skeletal rendzina and colluvium.



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## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Low-growing perennial herb, with creeping rhizomatous stems, short ascending to spreading branches, and lianoid stems up to 200 mm; lianoid stems with a sparse to moderate covering of retrorse hairs. Leaves in rosettes and alternate on stems, 6.5–12.0 × 4.0–8.0 mm, deltoid, deltoid-ovate to ± broad-oblong, brown-green, glabrous to glabrate; veins prominent and strongly translucent; margin undulate, occasionally sinuate; base truncate, obtuse, occasionally oblique or slightly cordate; apex usually retuse or obtuse; petiole channelled, glabrous to glabrate. Pedicel 5–30(–55) mm long, 0.4–1.2 mm diam., moderately hairy. Sepals 3.9–4.1 × 3.5–3.8 mm, obovate to ovate, green; abaxial surface sparsely to moderately hairy, adaxial surface glabrous; margin fimbriate and translucent; apex subacute to obtuse. Corolla 12–19 mm long in bud, 20–25 mm wide when open, white, rarely pink, five lobes fused their full length, lobe apex fringed with hairs; tube 5–8 mm long, pale green; abaxial surface with midline of petal with pink bands with sparse appressed hairs on upper half. Nectary annular, 0.3–0.4 mm tall, yellow. Style 2-cleft, white; fused portion 6.0–9.0 mm long, c. 0.2 mm wide; stigmata 2.5–4.0 × c. 0.5 mm. Ovary c. 1.0 × 1.0–1.2 mm, cream. Filaments 4.0–4.6 mm long, c. 0.5 mm wide at base, tapering to c. 0.2 mm at apex, white; margin with scattered short hairs on lower half; fused to base of corolla tube. Anthers 1.7–2.0 mm long, white. Capsule 5.8–6.2 mm long, 4.5–7.5 mm wide, chartaceous, globose, with 2–4 seeds, lower half enclosed in persistent calyx, style base remnant persistent. Seeds segment-shaped and broader toward apex with a rounded dorsal and two flattened lateral faces meeting at an acute ventral edge, or rounded and broadly obovate without distinct angles, almost triangular to terete in section; 2.8–3.9 × 2.4–3.0 mm; apex and base rounded; hilum concave. Testa black-brown overlaid and ornamented with grey nut-brown, dull, glabrous, moderately covered in low ridges and tubercles, sometimes forming ridges on margins

## SIMILAR TAXA

Most similar to *Convolvulus verecundus* f. *verecundus* from which it differs by the brown-green, glabrous to glabrate leaves, with prominent and strongly translucent veins, and by the undulating to occasionally sinuate leaf margins.

## FLOWERING

November - January

## FLOWER COLOURS

White

## FRUITING

December - March

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Not known from cultivation.

## THREATS

*Convolvulus verecundus* f. *glaberrimus* occupies an area of about 12 square metres where there are an estimated 15 plants. Therefore, Heenan & Molloy (2019) recommended that it be assessed as 'Threatened-Nationally Critical' (Criterion "A" of very small population (natural or unnatural). They note that two of the 'Nationally Critical' A subcriteria also apply: A(1) < 250 mature individuals and A(3) total area of occupancy ≤ 1 hectare (see Townsend *et al.* 2008)). Heenan & Molloy (2019) considered that the qualifier 'DP' (data poor) and 'OL' (one location) apply. This is because there is no population trend data, and the race is known from only one location.

## ETYMOLOGY

**convolvulus:** From Latin convolvere, which means to twine around

**glaberrimus:** From 'glaber' (hairless) and 'rimus' (to the greatest degree) i.e. 'extremely hairless'

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange (5 September 2019). Description from Heenan & Molloy (2019).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan, P.B.; Molloy, B.P.J. 2019: Five new and Nationally Threatened taxa of *Brachyscome*, *Cardamine*, *Convolvulus*, *Geranium* and *Ranunculus* obligate to vulnerable limestone habitats, eastern South Island, New Zealand. *Phytotaxa* 415(1): 32-48.

Townsend, A.J., de Lange, P.J., Norton, D.A., Molloy, J., Miskelly, C.; Duffy, C. 2008: The New Zealand Threat Classification System manual. Department of Conservation, Wellington, 35 pp.

### **NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION**

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/convolvulus-verecundus-f-glaberrimus/> (Date website was queried)

### **MORE INFORMATION**

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/convolvulus-verecundus-f-glaberrimus/>