

# Euchiton paludosus

## SYNONYMS

Gnaphalium paludosum Petrie, Euchiton paludosus (Petrie) Anderb. (nom. illegit.)

## FAMILY

Asteraceae

## AUTHORITY

Euchiton paludosus (Petrie) Holub

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledonous composites

## NVS CODE

EUCPAL

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 28

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Data Deficient | Qualifiers: Sp

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP, Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Sparse

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. New Zealand: North Island (scarce from about the Kaingaroa Plain south), South Island (local from Nelson to Southland), Stewart Island/Rakiura (local).

## HABITAT

Montane to subalpine mainly in bogs, or occasionally along stream and tarn margins, seepages and flushes within forest, shrubland, tussock grassland or herbfield.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACW: Facultative Wetland

Usually is a hydrophyte but occasionally found in uplands (non-wetlands).



Mount Ruapehu. Photographer: Jeremy R. Rolfe, Date taken: 09/02/2012, Licence: CC BY.



Ahuriri Conservation Area. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 08/03/2010, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stoloniferous perennial, forming diminutive, compact mats up to 80 mm diameter. **Stems** 1–2 ascending, simple 10–50 mm tall. **Petioles** rather short or absent. **Leaves** mainly basal; these 5–20 × 0.5–4 mm, elliptic to linear-elliptic or narrow-oblongate, obtuse to subacute, base often cuneate, attenuate; lower surface except mid-vein densely covered in white indumentum, upper surface usually glabrous and pleated, burnished bronze-green to dark green or purple green, sometimes sparsely tomentose, without pleats; cauline leaves scale-like, 1–3, ovate-triangular, amplexicaul, scarcely reducing toward apex. **Capitula** 1 mm diameter, solitary; subtending leaves absent; scape amongst leaves at flowering, filiform and exceeding leaves at fruiting. **Involucral bracts** elliptic-oblong, obtuse 3.8–4.5 mm, stereome green, tinged red-purple or maroon at apex; lamina pale brown, with a darker band at base; gap and margins tinged pale to deep red-purple. **Achenes** c. 1 mm, covered with short antrorse hairs.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Closely allied to *Euchiton polylepis* from which it differs by the usually pleated leaves, fewer hermaphroditic florets [1–3–(5) cf. (2)–4–7], fewer, longer bracts and longer achene hairs. Ecologically both species differ, with *E. polylepis* favouring mainly stream sides, damp hollows in grassland, and damp sites at the base of cliffs or on and around rocks, and *E. paludosus* bogs.

## FLOWERING

November–December

## FRUITING

December–February

## LIFE CYCLE

Pappate cypselae are dispersed by wind and water (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown in a partially submerged pot in a sunny or semi-shaded site.

## THREATS

A naturally uncommon, biologically sparse species that is very widely distributed but never common at any particular place. It may be threatened at some sites by weeds.

## ETYMOLOGY

**euchiton**: From the Greek eu (good) and chiton (tunic or covering)

**paludosus**: Of the swamp

## WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

## ATTRIBUTION

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

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ppees.2009.06.001>.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/euchiton-paludosus/>