

# Gaimardia setacea

## COMMON NAME

gaimardia

## SYNONYMS

None

## FAMILY

Restionaceae

## AUTHORITY

Gaimardia setacea Hook.f.

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

No

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Monocots

## NVS CODE

GAISSET

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: SO

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Indigenous. New Zealand: South Island and Stewart Island/Rakiura. Also in New Guinea and Tasmania.

## HABITAT

In the South Island strictly montane to alpine in bogs. On Stewart Island in similar sites but at lower elevations as well as alpine.

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Compact, dark brown, occasionally glaucescent herb forming cushions up to 900 mm across. **Roots** fibrous. **Stems** 20–80 mm long, erect, wiry. **Leaves** 5–20 mm long, leaves, naked, terminated by 2–3 alternate glume-like, minutely papillate bracts; each bract enclosing 1 pseudanthium only, the third or uppermost bract sterile; hyaline scales 0. **Male flowers** 2 in each pseudanthium. **Female flowers** 2 in each pseudanthium, styles not connate; occasionally with one ovary aborting. **Fruit** slightly > 0.5 mm. long, oblong-ovoid, surface faintly and irregularly reticulate.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Distinguished from *Centrolepis* Labill. by have two male flowers per pseudanthium; two fused and collateral female flowers; two-three, distinctly alternate, glume-like floral bracts and opaque, light-brown leaf-sheaths.



South Borland flats, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Arthurs Pass National Park. Photographer: Melissa Hutchison, Date taken: 13/01/2019, Licence: CC BY-NC.

## FLOWERING

November–January

## FRUITING

January–March

## LIFE CYCLE

Seeds are dispersed by water (Thorsen et al., 2009).

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult. Should not be removed from the wild.

## ETYMOLOGY

**gaimardia**: After Gaimard

**setacea**: Bristly

## WHERE TO BUY

Not Commercially Available.

## ATTRIBUTION

Description adapted from Moore and Edgar (1970).

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Moore LB, Edgar E. 1970. Flora of New Zealand, Volume II. Indigenous Tracheophyta: Monocotyledones except Gramineae. Government Printer, Wellington, NZ. 354 p.

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.

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/gaimardia-setacea/>