

Gingidia enysii var. enysii

COMMON NAME

limestone aniseed

SYNONYMS

Ligusticum enysii Kirk, *Anisotome enysii* (Kirk) Laing, *Gingidium enysii* (Kirk) J.W.Dawson var. *enysii*, *Gingidium enysii* var. *spathulatum* J.W.Dawson, *Gingidia enysii* var. *spathulatum* J.W.Dawson

FAMILY

Apiaceae

AUTHORITY

Gingidia enysii (Kirk) J.W.Dawson var. *enysii*

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 22

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Endangered | Qualifiers: Dp, RR

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: DP

2004 | Range Restricted

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, and as interpreted here to Castle Hill, Flock Hill, Prebble Hill, Cave Stream and Broken River.

HABITAT

Limestone outcrops and associated talus slopes within montane habitats (up to 700 m a.s.l.). Usually in open, sparsely vegetated sites. Often on the tops of solution karren or shallow depressions on the tops of rock stacks and towers.



Gingidia enysii. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.



St Mary's Range. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout tufted glaucous perennial herbs forming small circular patches 100 x 100 mm; bases clean from dead leaf remnants. Petioles 10-20 x 0.5-2.0 mm; sheaths 6-10 x 3-7 mm. Leaves once pinnate rarely 2-pinnate, fleshy, 30-100 x 8-30 mm, distinctly glaucous on both surfaces; leaflets 2-10 pairs, each 3-12 x 3-10 mm, simple, pinnatifid or pinnate with one to two (or more) segments, segments overlapping cut at less than or equal to one-third of the way to the mid-vein, terminal leaflets similar in size to the lateral leaflets; stomata abundant on both surfaces, leaflets sessile or with short petiolules. Inflorescences 50-170 mm long with axes 1.0-1.5 mm diameter below the first node; compound umbels 1-4 per inflorescence; in simple umbels 2-6 per compound umbel; bracts free or partly fused; flowers 5-12 per simple umbel; styles 0.75-2.00 mm long. Mericarps (excluding style) 2.5-5.0 mm long, dull light orange-yellow, orange-brown to brown, sometimes tinged purple, vittae dark brown to black-brown; narrowly ovate, ovate to narrowly ovate-oblong; apex narrowed to 2-3 ovate-triangular calyx teeth and usually recurved style remnant; surface broadly convex with 5 equal ribs.

SIMILAR TAXA

Differs from *Gingidia enysii* var. *peninsulare* J.W.Dawson by the leaflet segments, which are cut at no more than one-third of the way to the mid-vein. In all other respects both taxa are similar. Both taxa are allopatric, with *G. enysii* var. *peninsulare* being confined to igneous rocks on Banks Peninsula.

FLOWERING

October - January

FLOWER COLOURS

Brown, Orange

FRUITING

November - May

LIFE CYCLE

Winged mericarps are dispersed by wind (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed. Does well in a well drained, sunny situation. Does not tolerate overshadowing and dislikes prolonged humidity or wet poorly draining soils. Responds well to regular applications of lime.

THREATS

As interpreted here, *G. enysii* var. *enysii* is threatened because its habitats are being over-run by aggressive weeds such as *Festuca rubra*, *Hieracium* spp., *Pilosella officinarum* and *Dactylis glomerata* L.

ETYMOLOGY

gingidia: A Syrian carrot

enysii: Named in honour of John Davies Enys (1837-1912), a Cornish geologist, biologist and farmer, who owned Castle Hill Station in Canterbury from 1867 to 1891.

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available.

TAXONOMIC NOTES

Research into the *G. enysii* complex by Dr(s) B.P.J. Molloy and R. Gardner (University of Auckland) supports the concepts of Dawson (1967) rather than Webb (1977). However, their research (based on morphology supplemented by rDNA ITS data) also suggests that other populations from the Kaikoura Ranges, North and South Canterbury, and northern Otago are not *G. enysii* but allied, as yet unnamed (or apparently unnamed) species. The Banks Peninsula endemic *Gingidia enysii* var. *peninsulare* J.W.Dawson is also distinct from *G. enysii* var. *enysii*, though at a much lower level than the other populations investigated.

ATTRIBUTION

Factsheet by P.J. de Lange (21 August 2006). Description based on Dawson (1967).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Dawson, J.W. 1967: The New Zealand species of *Gingidium* (Umbelliferae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 5: 84-106.

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.

Webb, C.J. 1977: *Gingidia baxteri* and *Gingidia enysii* (Umbelliferae). *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 15: 639-643.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Gingidia enysii* var. *enysii* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/gingidia-enysii-var-enysii/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/gingidia-enysii-var-enysii/>