

Linum monogynum var. chathamicum

COMMON NAME

Chatham Island linen flax

FAMILY

Linaceae

AUTHORITY

Linum monogynum var. *chathamicum* Cockayne

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 84

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: IE, RR

ETYMOLOGY

linum: Flax

monogynum: United styles

TAXONOMIC NOTES

Further research into the status of *Linum monogynum* var. *chathamicum* is needed. Whilst plants with bluish or blue striped flowers have been found in New Zealand proper, recent DNA data (Heenan et al. 2010) suggests that Chatham Island plants are distinct. Further research is needed, but until such time as this has been done it seems prudent to retain the Chatham Island *Linum* as distinct from New Zealand plants.

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Heenan, P.B.; Mitchell, A.D.; de Lange, P.J.; Keeling, J.; Paterson, A.M. 2010: Late Cenozoic origin and diversification of Chatham Islands endemic plant species revealed by analyses of DNA sequence data. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 48: 83–136.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/linum-monogynum-var-chathamicum/>



Te Whanga Lagoon, Chatham Island.
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Te Whanga Lagoon, Rekohu (Chatham Islands).
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