

Myosotis brockiei subsp. brockiei

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Boraginaceae

AUTHORITY

Myosotis brockiei L.B.Moore et M.J.A.Simpson

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: RR

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon | Qualifiers: CD

2004 | Gradual Decline

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic to North West Nelson, upper Cobb and Takaka river catchments.

HABITAT

In shady sites within forest or in open areas. Associated with limestone, marble or ultramafic cliffs, outcrops, talus slopes and rubble areas

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Perennial herb. Rosette leaves crowded, 60-120 x 1-15 mm, narrow-elliptic, tapering to a long, winged petiole, grey-green, hairs short, arcuate, somewhat silky, scarcely overlapping, on the upper surface retrorse, Lateral branches erect up to 300 mm tall. Cauline leaves narrow-elliptic, progressively smaller. Cymes 1-several, ebracteate, young flowers initially crowded, internodes elongating to exceed calyx length at fruiting. Flowers > 20, unscented. Calyx 3 mm long, exceeding corolla tube, calyx lobes narrow-linear, wide-spreading, lobed almost to base, hairs short, crowded, arcuate, long and flexyous only at apices. Corolla white, rotate, 9-10 mm diam., tube short 1 x 1 mm, < calyx lobes, lobes spreading 4 x 2.5 mm, broadly ovate and overlapping at bases. Scales exerted, initially yellow fading to white. Filaments 4 mm, conspicuous, anthers 1 mm. Style projecting beyond stamens, stigma narrow capitate. Nutlets brown, glossy, ovoid, 1.9 x 1 mm.

SIMILAR TAXA

Closest to *Myosotis brockiei* subsp. *dysis*, which is geographically isolated from subsp. *brockiei*. *M. brockiei* subsp. *dysis* is a lowland and western North-west Nelson species, and produces more horizontal runners in larger plants, while subsp. *brockiei* is an upland species in eastern North-West Nelson, and is more clump forming without any obvious horizontal runners. The species is also similar to *Myosotis concinna* Cheeseman, within which it was initially treated as a white-flowered variant. *M. concinna* Cheeseman is a endemic to Mt Owen and its immediate vicinity. It is a stocker plant with fully yellow flowers, heavier, shorter infructescences, a cylindric calyx barely equally the longer corolla tube. The yellow flowers have elliptic rather than ovate corolla lobes, and are very fragrant, while the nutlets are darker brown, larger (2.8 x 1.6 mm), and ellipsoid



Cobb Valley, Kahurangi National Park.
Photographer: Simon Walls, Date taken:
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Cobb Valley, Kahurangi National Park.
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FLOWERING

December - February

FLOWER COLOURS

White, Yellow

FRUITING

January - April

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Difficult and should not be removed from the wild. Can be grown in pots in an alpine house, does best in lime enriched, well drained, cool, but sunny situations. Dislikes humidity.

THREATS

A naturally uncommon species which is vulnerable to loss from plant collectors habitat destruction and the spread of weeds into its preferred habitat. There has been a slight range contraction in this species distribution over the last 10 years.

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

WHERE TO BUY

Occasionally available from some specialist native plant nurseries

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared by P.J. de Lange, updated 30 September 2023. Description based on Allan (1961).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-brockiei-subsp-brockiei/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

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