

Myosotis chaffeyorum

COMMON NAME

forget-me-not

SYNONYMS

None - first described in 2012

FAMILY

Boraginaceae

AUTHORITY

Myosotis chaffeyorum C.A.Lehnebach

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

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

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP, RR, Sp

2009 | Threatened – Nationally Critical | Qualifiers: DP

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island (North West Nelson (Kahurangi National Park))

HABITAT

Montane in closed red beech (*Nothofagus fusca*) forest at the bases of limestone cliff faces

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Plant perennial, 14–46 mm tall. Rosette leaves 6–9, lamina orbicular, 8.1–8.9 × 7.7–9.2 mm, apex mucronate, mucro c.1 mm long. Leaf indumentum strigose, hairs on upper and lower surface sparsely distributed, non overlapping, appressed and antrorse. Hairs on leaf margin appressed. Petiole well-defined, 11.9–13.5 × 0.2–0.3 mm; hairs appressed, antrorse, sparsely distributed. Stem light brown, decumbent, not rooting at nodes, 59–100 × 0.3–0.5 mm. Stem hairs appressed as for leaves, hairs 0.2–0.6 mm long. Stem leaves elliptic or orbicular, 7.2–8.8 × 4.4–6.2 mm, mucronulate, shortly petiolate or sessile towards distal end of stem. Indumentum as for rosette leaves. Calyx lobes lanceolate, 1.5–2.0 mm long, hairs in upper half of the lobe only. Fruiting calyx 2.3 – 3 mm long; hairs appressed, straight, overlapping, not uniform in size. Flowers borne along the trailing stem, each usually opposite to a leaf. Pedicel at fruiting 1.5–3.0 mm long. Corolla white with yellow scales, 3.7–4.0 mm across. Corolla lobes obovate, not overlapping, 1.4–1.8 × 1.2–1.6 mm, apex rounded or irregularly notched. Corolla tube 2 – 2.2 mm long. Stamens included in the corolla, anther appendage slightly above the scales. Filament attached below scales. Anther 0.5 × 0.2 mm. Style 1.8 mm long, stigma clavate. Nutlet smooth, light brown, ovoid to ellipsoid, 1.2 × 0.7–0.8 mm, ventral surface rounded.



Paynes Ford Scenic Reserve, Takaka Valley.
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SIMILAR TAXA

Myosotis chaffeyorum can be confused with *M. matthewsii* (a North Island (Northland)) endemic and *M. spathulata*. It differs from *Myosotis spathulata* differs from *Myosotis* by its well-defined, slender petiole; appressed, straight hairs on stem, petiole, leaf lamina and margin; and by its decumbent stem not rooting at nodes. From *M. matthewsii* it differs its strigose indumentum on leaf upper surface; smaller flowers (3.7– 4.0 mm across vs 5.0–8.0 mm across); stamens included in the corolla tube and by the fruiting calyx borne on a shorter pedicel (1.5–3.0 mm vs 4.6 – 8.4 mm)

FLOWERING

February

FRUITING

February

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Unknown

THREATS

Myosotis chaffeyorum is currently known from five populations (four on protected land) and very few individuals (< 250) for this reason it has been listed as Nationally Critical by Lehnebach (2012)

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared for NZPCN by: P.J. de Lange (5 September 2012). Description adapted from Lehnebach (2012)

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Lehnebach, C.A. 2012: Two new species of forget-me-nots (Boraginaceae) from New Zealand. *Phytokeys* 16: 53-64. (doi: 10.3897/phytokeys.16.3602 www.phytokeys.com)

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

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

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-chaffeyorum/>