

Myosotis laingii

COMMON NAME

Waiautoa forget-me-not

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Boraginaceae

AUTHORITY

Myosotis laingii Cheeseman

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Extinct

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Extinct

2009 | Extinct

2004 | Data Deficient

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Marlborough. Known only from collections made from terraces adjacent to the Clarence River near Lake Tennyson. There are also a few specimens of it gathered by J. Buchanan from there

HABITAT

River terraces, 800-1400m a.s.l.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Rosette open, leaves few, lamina 80–150 × 10–20mm, elliptic-oblong, very gradually tapering into long-winged petiole, tip acuminate to mucronate; hairs short, fine, appressed, not overlapping, on undersurface similar but fewer, longer on sheathing leaf bases. Lateral branches erect, 150–400mm long, internodes mostly < leaves. Stem leaves few, uppermost c. 25 × 7mm, ± oblong, subacute; hairs as on rosette leaves but longer. Cymes simple, ebracteate, c. 12-flowered; internodes > calyx in fruit; pedicels c. 2mm long. Calyx 5–6mm long, lobes > ½ length, narrow, acute; hairs crowded, on lobes long and flexuous, towards base shorter and some hooked. Corolla apparently yellow (probably white when fresh fading to yellow when dry) 8–10mm diameter, tube funnelform and 5–7mm long, lobes c. 4 × 3mm, ± oblong; filaments fixed about level of scales, anthers c. 2mm long, wholly above scales; style very slender, > 2× calyx in fruit, stigma capitate. Nutlets not seen.



Close up. Photographer: Shannel Courtney, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Habitat. Photographer: Cathy Jones, Licence: CC BY.

SIMILAR TAXA

Myosotis laeta, *M. traversii* from which *M. laingii* differs by having large yellow rather than white flowers with anther tips protruding above petals and few leaves on flower stem.

FLOWERING

No information available

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow

FRUITING

Specimens with seed are unknown.

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

No information available.

THREATS

Myosotis laingii is known only with certainty from a handful of specimens collected between 1860-1912. It has not been collected since.

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

laingii: Named after Robert Malcolm Laing (1865-1941), a botanist and phycologist from Canterbury, who focused on Banks Peninsula, the Canterbury foothills, Campbell Island, the Spencer Mountains and Norfolk Island.

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for the NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 14 April 2006. Description by P.J. de Lange and subsequently published in de Lange et al. (2010).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

de Lange, P.J.; Heenan, P.B.; Norton, D.A.; Rolfe, J.R.; Sawyer, J.W.D. 2010: Threatened Plants of New Zealand. Canterbury University Press, Christchurch.

NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Myosotis laingii* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network. <https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myosotis-laingii/> (Date website was queried)

MORE INFORMATION

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