

Myosotis suavis

SYNONYMS

None

FAMILY

Boraginaceae

AUTHORITY

Myosotis suavis Petrie

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

NVS CODE

MYOSUA

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Data Deficient

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Data Deficient

2009 | Data Deficient

2004 | Data Deficient

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. South Island, known from Westland, Canterbury, and Otago.

HABITAT

Associated with rock outcrops, stony ground, and boulder field.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Small, rosette forming, perennial herb. Leaves broadly obovate-spathulate 2-4 × 0.7-1.5 cm, tip rounded with a small emergent spine (mucronate), all parts but especially the leaf undersides very hairy. Hairs long, tapering, appressed, on undersides shorter. Lateral branches few, ascending up to 10 cm long. Upper stem leaves narrow-elliptic and stalkless, 1-2 × 0.3-1 cm, tip broadly acuminate, hairs numerous, long and silky, appressed. Inflorescences 2 cm long, simple or branched, terminal. Flowers without subtending bracts. Calyx 5-7(-8) mm, lobes > half length, obtuse, copiously covered in appressed often hooked hairs. Corolla white 5-7 mm diameter, tube 4-6 mm, funnel-like, lobes flat, rounded, 1.5-2.5 × 1.5-2.5 mm diameter, stamens with very short filaments, fixed immediately below corolla scales. Anthers 1.5 mm, projecting above rather large corolla scales.

SIMILAR TAXA

Close to *M. explanata* but differing by its smaller size, calyces with crowded hairs, and smaller (7 mm) corollas.



Jamieson Saddle. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Myosotis suavis, Godley Valley. Photographer: John Barkla, Date taken: 22/01/2019, Licence: CC BY.

FLOWERING

December to February

FLOWER COLOURS

White

FRUITING

No information available

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Can be grown with difficulty from rooted pieces. Hard without specialist knowledge and an alpine house.

THREATS

Very little is known about this species, beyond that it is rarely collected and seems to be genuinely scarce. Because so little is known about it, it has been listed as Data Deficient.

ETYMOLOGY

myosotis: Mouse-eared

suavis: Sweet

WHERE TO BUY

Not commercially available

ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet prepared for NZPCN by P.J. de Lange 1 February 2008. 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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MORE INFORMATION

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