

# Myriophyllum votschii

## FAMILY

Haloragaceae

## AUTHORITY

Myriophyllum votschii Schindler

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

## ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

## ENDEMIC GENUS

No

## ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Herbs - Dicotyledons other than Composites

## NVS CODE

MYRVOT

## CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 14, c.21

## CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: Sp

## PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened | Qualifiers: Sp

2009 | At Risk – Naturally Uncommon

2004 | Not Threatened

## DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North, South, Stewart and Chatham Islands

## WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

OBL: Obligate Wetland

Almost always is a hydrophyte, rarely in uplands (non-wetlands).

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Dioecious perennial terrestrial herb, stems prostrate (rarely erect, forming tight cushions to 70 mm high), branching freely, rooting at nodes, forming clumps to 100 mm in diameter, glabrous. Leaves all opposite, entire, obovoid, 1.8-3.5 × (0.5-)0.7-1.1 mm, ± planar or slightly concave on upper surface, convex below, spreading or slightly upward-curving, glabrous.. Hydathodes absent. Rarely, in inundated plants, submerged leaves are formed, which are linear, 2.0 × 0.2 mm. Inflorescence a terminal spike with the unisexual flowers borne in the axils of opposite upper leaves indistinguishable from lower (sterile) leaves. Male and female flowers apparently borne on separate plants. Bracteoles linear, 0.5-0.7 × 0.1-0.2 mm. Hydathodes 0. Male flowers 4-merous, sessile, usually in axils of the uppermost pair of leaves only. Sepals 0. Petals 4, green at first, becoming white with a dark reddish spot at tip (rarely, completely dark red), hooded, non-unguiculate, 1.5-1.8 × 0.7-1.0 mm, reflexed at anthesis. Stamens 8; filaments 0.2-0.3 mm long, elongating to 0.8-11.0 mm at anthesis; anthers yellow, oblong, 1.2-1.3 × 0.4 mm, 4-celled, non apiculate or very weakly apiculate. Styles 0. Ovary vestigial. Female flowers 4-merous, sessile, in axils of upper 4-8 pairs of leaves. Sepals, petals and stamens 0. Styles 4, ± sessile, stigmas white, fimbriate, capitate. Ovary green, shortly cylindrical, 0.8 × 0.6-0.8 mm, longitudinally channelled between styles, rounded opposite styles, otherwise smooth. Fruit black, depressed-globular, 0.9-1.0 × 1.1-1.4 mm, suture between mericarps buff coloured; mericarps separating at maturity. Mericarps planar on inner faces, outer face convex, smooth or very weakly punctate, sometimes with a faint median longitudinal ridge.



Whatipu, December. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Myriophyllum votschii. Photographer: Lisa Forester, Licence: CC BY-SA.

## FLOWER COLOURS

Green, White

## PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easily grown from fresh seed and rooted pieces. must be kept moist. An interesting plant for a small pond or fish tank

## ETYMOLOGY

**myriophyllum**: Many leaves

## ATTRIBUTION

Fact Sheet Prepared by P.J. de Lange (1 November 2009). Description based on Orchard (1979)

## REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Orchard, A.E. 1979: *Myriophyllum* (Haloragaceae) in Australasia. 1. New Zealand: a revision of the genus and a synopsis of the family. *Brunonia* 2: 247-287.

## NZPCN FACT SHEET CITATION

Please cite as: de Lange, P.J. (Year at time of access): *Myriophyllum votschii* Fact Sheet (content continuously updated). New Zealand Plant Conservation Network.

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

## MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/myriophyllum-votschii/>