

Agrostis muscosa

COMMON NAME

pincushion grass

SYNONYMS

Agrostis aemula subsp. *beta* *spathacea* Berggr., *A. parviflora* var. *perpusilla* Hookf., *A. canina* var. *gamma*

FAMILY

Poaceae

AUTHORITY

Agrostis muscosa Kirk

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Native

ENDEMIC TAXON

Yes

ENDEMIC GENUS

No

ENDEMIC FAMILY

No

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Grasses

NVS CODE

AGRMUS

CHROMOSOME NUMBER

2n = 42

CURRENT CONSERVATION STATUS

2017 | Not Threatened

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION STATUSES

2012 | Not Threatened

2009 | Not Threatened

2004 | Not Threatened

DISTRIBUTION

Endemic. North Island from eastern Bay of Plenty south to the South Wellington coastline. South Island throughout except Westland. Stewart Island.

HABITAT

Lowland in coastal turf and gravel, otherwise montane, subalpine to alpine on stone pavements, within tussock grassland, on tarn and lake margins and in fell field.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FAC: Facultative

Commonly occurs as either a hydrophyte or non-hydrophyte (non-wetlands).

MANAAKI WHENUA ONLINE INTERACTIVE KEY

[Key to the grasses of New Zealand](#)

FLOWER COLOURS

Yellow



Old Man Range, January. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Dunstan. Photographer: John Barkla, Licence: CC BY.

LIFE CYCLE

Florets are dispersed by wind and water (Thorsen et al., 2009).

PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

Easy from fresh seed and rooted pieces. Does very well in pots, and can be grown in most situations. Does not like humidity.

ETYMOLOGY

agrostis: Greek name for a kind of grass

muscosa: Moss-like

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Thorsen MJ, Dickinson KJM, Seddon PJ. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. *Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics* 11: 285–309.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/agrostis-muscosa/>