



## *Callitriche antarctica*

### **Common Name(s):**

None known

### **Current Threat Status (2012):**

At Risk - Naturally Uncommon

### **Distribution:**

Indigenous. In New Zealand known from Campbell and Auckland Islands. Also on Macquarie, Heard Island and Tasmania. Probably elsewhere on the subantarctic islands.

### **Habitat:**

Coastal to montane in damp, peaty and boggy ground. Common around sea bird nesting grounds, penguin rookeries and seal haul outs. Prefers open, disturbed habitats,

### **Features:**

Tufted to spreading, much branched, succulent perennial herb forming dense bright to dark green patches on mud. Branches thick, creeping below with ascending branches up to 100 mm long. Leaves on stout petioles 2-3 mm long, lamina succulent, 2.5-10 x 1.5-4.8 mm, dark green to light green, spatulate to oblong-spatulate, 3-nerved, sometimes with free veins, apex rounded, base scarious. Flowers solitary, males in upper and femal lower axils, ebracteate or with bracts shedding early. Filaments to 13 mm, tapering from broad base. Mericarp more or less elliptic, laterally compressed, 0.9-1.2(-1.5) mm long, surface reticulate, or colliculate, dull pale orange-yellow, orange-brown or dark brown.

### **Flowering:**

November - December

### **Fruiting:**

December - January

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened. Listed because in the New Zealand region it has a restricted geographic range.

### **References and further reading:**

Thorsen, M. J.; Dickinson, K. J. M.; Seddon, P. J. 2009. Seed dispersal systems in the New Zealand flora. Perspectives in Plant Ecology, Evolution and Systematics 2009 Vol. 11 No. 4 pp. 285-309

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=1579](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1579)



**Caption:** *Callitriche antarctica*

**Photographer:** K. Kieffer (copyright Australian Commonwealth)



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