



## *Callitriche petriei* subsp. *petriei*

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

Petrie's starwort

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

Not Threatened

### **Distribution:**

Endemic. North and South Islands. Scarce north of Auckland.

### **Habitat:**

Coastal to alpine in damp muddy ground, lake, pond and tarn turf, in damp temporary pools, puddles and soaks within forest and scrub. Sometimes found permanently submerged.

### **Features:**

Diminutive, dioecious to subdioecious, widely creeping perennial with weakly ascending to erect branches 30-100 mm long. Leaves 1.1-5 mm long, bright green to yellow green, spathulate to orbicular, the larger leaves often with short side veins arising from the midrib, and with two lateral veins. Flowers solitary, alternate on either side of stem, ebracteate. Fruit an more or less elliptic mericarp, laterally compressed, 0.6-0.7 x 0.7-0.9 mm, dull grey-brown or orange-yellow, lobes not rounded, keeled or winged.

### **Flowering:**

November - January

### **Fruiting:**

January - February

### **Threats:**

Not Threatened

### **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=1581](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1581)



**Caption:** Lake Wairarapa. Jan 1983.

**Photographer:** Colin Ogle



**Caption:** Female flower (lwft) and male flower. Lake Wairarapa. Jan 1983.

**Photographer:** Colin Ogle