



Teucrium parvifolium

Common Name(s):

teucridium

Current Threat Status (2012):

At Risk - Declining

Distribution:

Endemic to New Zealand, occurring sporadically from Northland to Southland, but commoner in the east of both islands.

Habitat:

Along fertile stream sides and river terraces in lowland dry forest and podocarp-hardwood forest; occasionally on forest margins, clearings and amongst scrub.

Features*:

A small-leaved shrub to 2 m. Young stems are orange or brown, square in cross-section and finely hairy. Leaves are in opposite pairs, round, dull green or brown-green; up to 12 mm long on stalks of equal length. Flowers are small (8 mm diameter), white (rarely bluish) with 5 irregular petal lobes. Fruit is a group of 4 seeds held within a persistent calyx.

Flowering:

Flowering occurs from October to January.

Fruiting:

Fruiting from December to March.

Threats:

Forest clearance, rural development, stock and feral animal browse, invasive weeds.

*Attribution:

Fact sheet prepared by Peter J. de Lange (August 2004). Description adapted from Allan (1961)

References and further reading:

Allan, H.H. 1961: Flora of New Zealand. Vol. I. Government Printer, Wellington.

Salmaki, Y.; Kattari, S.; Heubl, G.; Bräuchler, C. 2016: Phylogeny of non-monophyletic *Teucrium* (Lamiaceae: Ajugoideae): Implications for character evolution and taxonomy. *Taxon* 65: 805–822

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=207



Caption: Old Man Range, January

Photographer: John Barkla



Caption: Eastern Wairarapa.

Photographer: Jeremy Rolfe