



Veronica colostylis

Common Name(s):

None Known

Current Threat Status (2012):

Not Threatened

Distribution:

Endemic. New Zealand: South Island (on both sides of the main divide from Rangitata River to Fiordland and The Hump)

Habitat:

Montane to alpine. On cliffs, rock outcrops, river gravel, river banks, moraines and in grassland.

Features*:

Low subshrub, 50-150 mm tall. Old stems brown. Branches decumbent to ascending. Branchlets brown or red-brown or purplish. Vegetative internodes 1-8 mm long. Stem pubescence absent or bifarious, eglandular pubescent. Leaves decussate, erecto-patent to recurved. Lamina linear to oblong (narrowly), 4-15 × 1-3 mm. Upper surface of leaves green, glossy. Under surface of leaves pale green, dull. Leaf hairs sparse to scattered, along margins (especially at base), eglandular. Apex rounded or truncate. Base cuneate. Margin ciliate (especially at base), entire. Petiole 1-3 mm long. Inflorescence racemose, unbranched, 10-40 mm at fruiting, with 2-6 flowers. Indumentum of peduncle, rachis, and pedicels absent. Peduncle 3-20 mm, glabrous. Rachis 0-15 mm long, glabrous. Bracts alternate (basal pair sometimes subopposite), obtuse, glabrous (rarely a few hairs on margin at base), linear to elliptic (narrowly). Bract margins entire. Pedicels erecto-patent at anthesis to suberect at anthesis, incurved at fruiting, 4-15 mm long, glabrous. Flowers: Calyx 4-lobed, 3-9 mm long. Calyx lobes lanceolate to deltoid or elliptic or obovate, subacute to obtuse. Calyx hairs absent (calyx glabrous). Calyx lobe margins entire. Corolla white at anthesis. Nectar guides pink, obscure or absent, confined to posterior corolla lobe if present. Colour ring pink or absent. Corolla throat same colour as lobes. Corolla 5-10 mm diameter. Corolla tube 1.2-3.5 × 1.0-2.0 mm wide, glabrous. Corolla lobes glabrous. Posterior corolla lobe elliptic to ovate, obtuse, 5-7 × 3-5 mm. Lateral corolla lobes elliptic to ovate, subacute to obtuse, flat, not enfolding stamens, 5.0-7.0 × 3.5-5.0 mm. Anterior corolla lobe elliptic (narrowly), subacute, 4.0-7.0 × 2.0-3.5 mm. Stamen filaments white, 1-3 mm long, not narrowed at base. Anthers pink to magenta, 1.0-2.0 mm long. Nectarial disc glabrous. Ovary flattened, globose, obtuse, glabrous, 1-2 mm long. Style 2-4 mm long. Stigma 0.4-0.7 mm wide. Capsules broadly angustiseptate, truncate to emarginate, 3.5-4.0 × 3.5-4.0 mm, glabrous. Septicidal split of capsule extending to base. Loculicidal split of capsule extending 1/4-1/2 way to base. Seeds strongly flattened, smooth-surfaced, ellipsoid, brown, 0.5-0.8 × 0.3-0.6 mm

Flowering:

October - December

Fruiting:

December - April

Threats:

Not Threatened

*Attribution:

Fact Sheet by P.J. de Lange (5 October 2006). Description adapted from Garnock-Jones and Lloyd (2003).

References and further reading:

Garnock-Jones, P.J.; Lloyd, D.G. 2003: A taxonomic revision of *Parahebe* (Plantaginaceae) in New Zealand. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 42: 181-23

For more information, visit:

http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=1085



Caption: South Temple Valley
Photographer: John Barkla